IRF-PAI Vendor Call Questions & Answers

December 10, 2012

ID	Topic	Question	Answer
20121210-001	A-Specs	I have a couple of question regarding the new IRF-PAI 1.10.1 XML file format. 1) In the new specification for Inactivating an existing record (where TRANS_TYPE_CD = 3), one of the required fields in the specification is "CORRECTION_NUM'. This is not required in the current "flat" file format, so I am wondering what its value should be. I am assuming that the value should match what is currently in the CMS database. So, for example, if a patient record was submitted (and accepted) three times, the last Correction Number would be 2. If the record needs to be inactivated, should the inactivation file also contain a correction number of 2 for this record? 2) According to the specification, all XML submission files must be bundled into a single archive file. The specification states the file must have the extension 'zip'. Please confirm that this means the archive must be a standard ZIP file format (the format developed by PKWARE and used by programs such as WinZIP)	1) The CORRECTION_NUM for the new system is the same as the CORRECTION_NUM located in the control section of the current body record specifications. The original version of the assessment is correction number 0 (not a correction record). The first correction would be CORRECTION_NUM = 1, the second correction is CORRECTION_NM = 2, the third correction is an inactivation request so it would be CORRECTION_NUM = 3. Each new version of the assessment needs a CORRECTION_NUM one greater than the prior accepted version. 2) Yes, that is correct.
20121210-002	A-Specs	We noticed that there is no naming convention suggested for the xml file. Is there an expected format: e.g. IRF_PAI20121001001.xml. Does there need to be a unique file name or sequence? If the facility has several individual xml files that they are zipping e.g. Zipped file contains: IRF_PAI20121001001.xml IRF_PAI20121001002.xml IRF_PAI20121001003.xml	XML file naming convention - The only naming convention requirement for the XML files is that the file name end with .XML. Vendors may determine the naming convention for the XML and zip files. This is the same approach used for the MDS 3.0 XML files. The requester may refer to the IRF-PAI Data Submission Overview document for additional information about the XML and zip files. The Overview document is available in the IRF-PAI Data Submission Specifications v1.10.1 zip file available on the CMS website.

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		Zipped file is named: IRF_PAI20121001001.zip Or is the naming of the file up to the discretion of the vendor?	
20121210-003	A-Specs	1) We have a vendor question on the "Correction Number" element it is a required in field in new submission, correction and deactivation/deletion. We just want to confirm that we understand this field correctly. E.g. For a New assessment this field will contain a value 00 For a deactivation it will contain this value 00 as well pertaining to the original assessment For a Correction the field will be 01, 02, 03 incremented based on sequence which correction Because this field is also part of the deactivation and the new assessment are there any other expectations for this element then mentioned above.	Correction Number - Any new or original record submitted must have a Correction Number (CORRECTION_NUM) value = 00. Any subsequent record submitted for that current record, whether a modification or inactivation, must have a Correction Number value that is one greater than the Correction Number of the current record in the QIES ASAP database. Example #1: Original or NEW record - Correction Number = 00 First Modification record - Correction Number = 01 Second Modification record - Correction Number = 02 Inactivation Record - Correction Number = 03 Example #2 Original or NEW record - Correction Number = 00 Inactivation Record - Correction Number = 01 Failure to submit a record with a Correction Number one greater than the current record in the database that is to be modified or inactivated will result in error - 1011 - Invalid Correction Number. 3) Correction of assessments completed prior to October 1, 2012, but submitted after October 1, 2012: The IRF-PAI Data Specifications Overview document contains detailed information about this topic. The Overview document must be read prior to reading the data submission specifications. All records submitted to the new IRF-PAI ASAP system on or after October 1, 2012, MUST be submitted in an XML format. No other record format will be processed or accepted by

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			the QIES ASAP system. Two more referencing documents are available on the Vendor – IRF Information page of QTSO (https://www.qtso.com/vendorirf.html): • IRF Vendor Call Notes • IRF-PAI Vendor Call Questions and Answers
20121210-004	A-Specs	If a patient was admitted in August, was supposed to leave in Sept., but now leaving on October 5th; will the system automatically changed her information onto the new form or will I have to do that. All information was put into the old format.	The submission system requires all records submitted on or after October 1, 2012 to be in the new Data Submission Specifications v1.10 format. For assessments with a discharge date on or after October 1, 2012, the new quality items (48 - 50) must be submitted (could be dashes) as well as the other items (1 - 47). If the assessment has been data entered, please contact your vendor to determine if the assessment was converted with the software upgrade or if something else is needed. If the assessment has not been data entered, please data enter under the 1.10 version of the data specifications. Please contact your vendor if you need assistance with this. If your software vendor is jIRVIN, please contact the QTSO Help Desk.
20120223-001	A-Specs	Since the format of the CMS submission file is changing to XML, all previous groupers have previously used the flat file when you interface with grouper .dlls. Will the future grouper .dll, the one coming out this October, use flat files or XML format?	There is no logic change for the grouper so the current grouper should be used. The current string documented in Appendix A of the CMG documentation is still used with the current grouper. CMS will provide CMG XML test records that vendors can use for testing their system.
20120223-002	A-Specs	Will the current grouper, Version 2.60, continue to be in effect after October 1, 2012?	Yes
20120223-003	A-Specs	Assuming both the 48A (Admission) and 50B fields are filled in, is it a requirement that the value in field 50B be less than or equal the value in 48A (Admission)? The same question applies for fields 48B (Admission) and 50C, as well as 48C (Admission) and 50D.	The data specifications do not contain this type of edit at this time. Refer to the manual for coding direction.

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20120223-004	A-Specs	Regarding the new "Quality Indicators" section of the IRF-PAI Form: What fields are required to be filled in for the record to be considered "complete" for submission to CMS?	All items must be submitted. If you choose not to answer a quality item (items 48A-50D), a hyphen should be submitted.
20121210-005	C-VUT	On August 3, CMS' vendor QTSO released the "jIRVEN VUT" software (posted here: https://www.qtso.com/vendorirf.html). The software is designed to validate the new CMS Data Submission files, essentially replacing the old "test data submission" website. While testing the "jIRVEN VUT" software today, I found that is it not reporting any errors for invalid data for the new "Quality Indicators" fields. I was processing files containing data in these fields that was invalid according to the CMS Data Submission File Specification document, but the "jIRVEN VUT" software did not report any errors for the bad data. I am wondering if the release of the "jIRVEN VUT" software that was posted on August 3 on the QTSO website was meant to be the final version, or if the software is still in development.	The VUT software should provide the message errors for the quality indicator items for records with a target date of 10/1/2012 and later. Records with a target date of 9/30/2012 and earlier will not have error messages for the quality indicator items as they are not required items until 10/1/2012.
20120223-005	C-VUT	Will there be a way to test submission under the new QIES ASAP before Oct. 1?	Yes, records may be tested using the IRF VUT. CMS will have a Validation Utility Tool (VUT), which can be used to test XML files. The VUT will be available in late summer prior to the October 1, 2012 release. IRF submission XML files passing the VUT edits will also pass the ASAP edits. Only production records will be accepted in the Assessment Submission and Processing (ASAP) system.
20121210-006	E-ASAP	Where can I obtain step-by-step directions on printing Validation Reports after October 1st? I have been at the site, but it is confusing. I fill in the transmission dates, etc., but the first box @ the top, Submission ID	Your Final Validation Reports are automatically generated and placed in your provider's shared folder in the CASPER reporting application. You don't need to request the report unless the automatically

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		or something. What do I use for that? In addition, when it says Transmission File, I go to print it and it doesn't print. Do I have to be out of the website?	generated one has been deleted from your shared folder (60 days from your submission). Directions for accessing the Final Validation Reports are located in Chapter 4 of the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) Submission User's Guide for the QIES ASAP System which is located on your Welcome page (link to it). Additional information on requesting, viewing, printing, and saving reports in the CASPER Reporting application is located in the CASPER Reporting Provider User's Guide which is also on your Welcome page (another link). If after reading this, you still need help accessing your Final Validation Reports, please call the QTSO help desk and they will walk you through the process.
20121210-007	E-ASAP	Our client is having trouble submitting records to the ASAP system. Twice they have uploaded a zip file containing xml files generated by our software and twice all of the records contained in the zips have been rejected with an error of "Invalid XML File Format: The submitted file is not structured properly or contains tags longer than 30 characters and cannot be processed." The individual xml files validate correctly against the latest version of the VUT (downloaded from here https://www.qtso.com/vendorltch.html) At this point we feel confident that the xml file is well formed. Are you aware of any issues that other vendors or providers are having submitting zip files, or any issues with ASAP reading well-formed files?	There are three main reasons for receiving error -901: 1 - The zip file contains folders/subfolders. The zip file should not contain any folders 2 - The encoding used for the XML file is UTF-8. ANSI encoding should be used not UTF-8 3 - An invalid tag that is longer than 30 characters was sent in the file. No tag for an item submitted in the IRF submission file is longer than 30 characters. Your particular files are using UTF-8 encoding. Please refer to Section 5 of the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) Submission User's Guide for the QIES ASAP System for a complete explanation of error -901 (and all other ASAP errors).
20121210-008	E-ASAP	How do I obtain my old final validation reports present in the NACD system prior to October 1, 2012?	The IRF-PAI Facility Final Validation Reports present in the NACD system prior to October 1, 2012 will be

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			available to facilities for 60 days following the implementation of the new ASAP system. Users will be allowed to access those reports using a link that will be available on the new IRF-PAI System Welcome page. This new page will be deployed to production during this weekend's downtime. IRF users wishing to access the IRF-PAI Facility Final Validation Reports from the NACD, should select the Final Validation Reports from the NACD System for Assessments Submitted Prior to 10/01/2012 link available on the Welcome page. I've attached a screen shot of the new Welcome page so that you may view the new link. Once users select the link, they should log in with the same User ID and password that they have been using for IRF-PAI submissions. The User ID / password used to submit assessments to the NACD will be the same User ID / password used to submit assessments to the new IRF-PAI ASAP system. Once successfully logged in, users will be allowed to access the old FVRs but the NACD upload functionality will not be available. All IRF-PAI assessments submitted on or later than October 1, 2012 will be submitted to the new ASAP system. If users don't access and print or save the NACD FVRs before the end of 60 days, they will be able to request the IRF-PAI Facility Final Validation Report in CASPER for the older submissions. Report selection criteria for this report are Submission from and thru date range OR Submission ID. They will not, however be able to request the IRF-PAI Submitter Final Validation Report for submissions prior to October 1, 2012.

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20121210-009	F-Policy	A file was accidently submitted with unstageable pressure ulcers listed in the QI section of the IRF-PAI. It was caught only after transmission to CMS. Please instruct how to correct this information.	If the record was accepted by CMS and it is incorrect, then they should send in a modification record.
20121210-010	F-Policy	1 - Is the user allowed to enter a dash? A1a - Most software vendors require the user enter the dash if the item 2 - During the call on 8/16 it was stated that the only time to use a dash would be for an unexpected discharge OR for a patient that is admitted prior to 10/1/12 and is not using the new IRF-PAI form. Is a clinician able to insert a dash or should it just be automatically populated if the field is left blank. Can you please inform us of the correct process so that our programmers can program this field correctly? 3 - Does this mean that a patient prior to 10/1/12 and discharged after 10/1/12 does not need to be assessed at admission for pressure ulcers.	1 – Please refer to the data specifications for when a dash is an acceptable response. 2 - The pressure ulcer quality items are active on assessments with a target (discharge) date on or after October 1, 2012. When active, the assessor must answer all the items 48A - 50A. If the assessor does not assess items 50A, the assessor would enter a dash for 50A - 50D. If the assessor answers 50A with a 1 (yes), then the assessor must answer items 50B - 50D with a non-blank response. If the assessor answers 50A with a 0 (no), then the software vendor usually protects/removes items 50B - 50D and the software vendor automatically inserts a caret [^] in each item 50B - 50D. 3 - Yes, this is where policy said that if the patient was admitted prior to 10/01/12 and discharged on or after 10/01/12, the assessor should answer dash for the pressure ulcer questions
20120223-009	F-Policy	Is it only the data specs that will be changing or will the IRF-PAI form also change?	The IRF-PAI form has changed as well. Please refer to the new form titled new IRF-PAI form on the CMS website: http://www.cms.gov/InpatientRehabFacPPS/04_IRFPAI.asp#TopOfPage.

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20120223-010	F-Policy	Is the IRF-PAI Form in the document with OMB control number 0938-0842 for the final specification for IRF-PAI Version 1.10.0?	An earlier version of the proposed new IRF-PAI inadvertently contained an OMB number, which has been removed. The final version of the IRF-PAI form is posted on the CMS website: http://www.cms.gov/InpatientRehabFacPPS/04_IRFPAI.asp#TopOfPage.
20120223-011	F-Policy	Is there any plan on revising the IRF-PAI form to meet the requirements of CMS standards? The IRF-PAI form is now mandated to be in the IRF patients' records. According to CMS standards they want any paperwork in the records to be date, times, and legibly signed by the person completing the form, and must be labeled. Also according to our Corporate Responsibility department, we need to fill in the date, time, and sign for when the first 3 day admission assessment is completed and the same thing for the discharge FIM assessment was completed.	We recognize the issues and will work on addressing them in the future.
20120223-012	F-Policy	Does the ASAP submission system and the VUT have anything to do with CAUTI reporting?	No. Details related to the CMS Quality Reporting Program for IRFs, and the reporting of CAUTI for IRFs, can be found on the IRF Quality Reporting web page http://www.cms.gov/IRF-Quality-Reporting/.
20120223-013	F-Policy	Will there be a signature line with time and date at end of the new form.	CMS is aware of the issue and is looking into it. Nothing will be changed this year
20121210-011	G-General	"How do we sign up to attend the Sept 3rd WebEx training: IRF Assessment Submission Process: How to submit the IRF-PAI to CMS ASAP and the training on CASPER Reports?	The IRF submission and CASPER training sessions are posted on QTSO. These are recorded training sessions, not a live webinar that must be pre-registered for. Steps to access to these WebExes are listed below: • Access the QTSO e-University page at https://www.qtso.com/webex/qiesclasses.php. • Select the **Other** link located in the Recorded

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			Training Sessions Categories box and the QTSO e-University login page will display. • Enter your first and last name and Email address in the Name and Email fields. • Select the Go button and the Recorded Training Sessions page will display • Select the link from the Recorded Training Sessions box to view the desired training Important notes: • The file format for this recording is Windows Media Video (WMV). Windows Media Player is recommended for viewing. • This training session contains audio and visual information. Ensure that the computer's speakers are turned on to hear the audio. • This recorded training session contains closed captioning. Select the Closed Captioning Instructions link in the Recorded Training Sessions box to access instructions for enabling the closed captioning feature, if needed. • Please contact the QTSO Help Desk by phone at (877) 201-4721 or by email at help@qtso.com if you have questions regarding this training session.
20121210-012	G-General	Please clarify if IRF hospitals who do submit IRF-PAI's to CMS need to complete the CMSNet(Verizon) Access Request form to request a "Create New Access" or "Update Access" for our existing IRF ID number. The CMS web training session for the IRF-PAI Submission states this CMSNet Access Request filing is only for a NEW IRF.	For IRFs that already have a CMSNet User ID and a QIES IRF User ID, it is unnecessary for them to re-register for these IDs.
20121210-013	G-General	When I am entering data on an IRF-PAI, there is not a section to enter Pressure Ulcer information. But when I print it out, those Quality Indicators are there. My understanding is that the new information would automatically be added on October 1, but if there is	We believe this may be a question about entering data and the vendor tool. If jIRVEN is be utilized, please contact the QTSO Help Desk at Help@QTSO.com. If another data entry tool (not jIRVEN) is being utilized, please contact the software vendor.

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		something else I need to do, please let me know.	
20121210-014	G-General	Had a complete and total computer crash. Need to download IRF validation system complete with software system to send claims for validation. We use Ivens.	It would be best for you to contact your software vendor. Also, as IVANS is the tool you use for your claims system, this may be a claims not an assessment issue. Our QTSO HD refers questions about IVANS to the IVANS help line: 800-548-2675.
20121210-015	G-General	I would like to know when the Specification manual will be available, how to access and how the reporting mechanism will be facilitated?	Information on the IRF-PAI assessment and submission is available on the following websites: IRF Quality Reporting Program information is available by accessing the CMS website located at: http://cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/IRF-Quality-Reporting/index.html IRF Technical Information is available by accessing the CMS website located at: http://cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/InpatientRehabFacPPS/TechInfo.html IRF-PAI Software information is available by accessing the CMS IRF software web page located at: Vendor and provider information is available on the Quality Improvement and Evaluation System Technical Support Office (QTSO) website located at: http://cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/InpatientRehabFacPPS/Software.html Vendor registration website is located in the QTSO website located at: https://www.qtso.com/vendorirf.html Signup for listserv announcements and CMS Open Door Forums is available by accessing the CMS website located at: http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/OpenDoorForums/ODF_SpecialO

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			DF.html IRF-PAI Data Set is available by accessing the CMS website located at: http://cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/InpatientRehabFacPPS/IRFPAI.html IRF-PAI Submission User's Guide is located at: https://www.qtso.com/irfpai.html. The CASPER Reporting User's Manual is located on the CMS IRF-PAI System Welcome Page.