Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
IRF Vendor Call
Thursday, February 23, 2012
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. (E.T.)

Information Notes - 04/12/2012 (websites updated)

- **Call Purpose:**

  ○ Review the changes to the IRF-PAI submission system and Data Specifications that support the Quality Reporting Program with focus on the technical processes and procedures for vendors and provider software developers

  ○ Please note that CMS policies related to the IRF Quality Reporting Program are not the focus of the vendor calls

- **Resources:**

  ○ 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: http://cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/InpatientRehabFacPPS/Software.html

  ○ Vendor and provider information is available on the Quality Improvement and Evaluation System Technical Support Office (QTSO) website located at:
  www.qtso.com

  ○ Vendor registration website is located in the QTSO website located at:
  https://www.qtso.com/vendorirf.html

  ○ Signup for listserve 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_SpecialODF.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

- **October 1, 2012, Quality Submission Requirements:**

  ○ IRFs will submit data on all Medicare patients for two Quality Measures

  ♦ CAUTI measure data will be submitted via the Center for Disease Control's (CDC's) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)

  ♦ Pressure Ulcers that are New or Have Worsened will be collected using the IRF-PAI assessment

- **QIES Assessment Submission and Processing (ASAP) Data Submission System:**

  ○ ASAP is effective on October 1, 2012

  ○ Revised file format and processing system

  ○ Version 1.10 of the IRF-PAI Data Specifications must be used for all records

  ○ All IRF-PAI records assessments will be submitted to the new ASAP system

  ♦ All modifications, inactivations, and late assessments

  ♦ All records regardless of the discharge date

  ○ The 1.01A Data Specifications cannot be used to submit any records to the ASAP system as the ASAP system will not accept a flat file

  ○ The current NACD IRF-PAI submission system will not be available beginning October 1, 2012

  ○ Submission login

  ♦ The same Welcome page will be accessed

  ♦ The same submission login and password will be used

  ○ Initial Validation Report is Replaced by Confirmation Page

  ♦ After uploading the submission file, a confirmation page containing the following will be displayed

    □ Submission ID

    □ Submission Timestamp

  ♦ Can be saved and printed

  ○ Final Validation Report

  ♦ Available in CASPER Reporting rather than through a separate application

  ♦ Link on the Welcome page to CASPER Reports

- □ Same user ID and password used for submitting is used to access the validation reports

- ♦ All errors will be listed on the final validation report

- ♦ Format similar to current Final Validation Report
  - □ Lists each assessment in the file
    - ∗ Whether the assessment is accepted or rejected
    - ∗ Lists errors (fatal and warning) for the assessment
    - ∗ If Warning – record is accepted
    - ∗ If Fatal – record is rejected
    - ∗ Error numbers are listed in the data specifications. The error numbers will also be listed in Section 5 of the IRF-PAI Submission User's Guide which will be posted in September.
    - ∗ Relevant Item in error and value in error are identified for each error

- **IRF Technical Data Submission Specifications Effective October 1, 2012:**

  - ○ Are available on the CMS website

  - ○ CMS will provide free software to create the submission files or providers may create their own software or use a 3rd party vendor's software

  - ○ Supersedes all prior versions and includes instructions on submitting prior IRF-PAI data set records

  - ○ Contains information needed to submit all IRF-PAI records regardless of discharge date

  - ○ Quality Item Revision

    - ♦ The Version 1.01A quality items (48a-54) should not be submitted to the ASAP system for records with a discharge date prior to October 1, 2012

    - ♦ The Version 1.10 quality items (48A – 50D) should be collected and submitted on all records with a discharge date on or after October 1, 2012

  - ○ Major change to the submission file layout

    - ♦ Submission file will be a zipped file containing one or more XML files

    - ♦ Each XML file to contain a single IRF-PAI assessment

  - ○ Data specifications .zip file contains a Specification Overview document along with 4 supporting .zip files

  - ○ Specification Overview document

    - ♦ Describes the contents and layout of the specification files

- ♦ Read this document first
  - □ Provides crucial information on:
    - ∗ Versioning of the data specifications
    - ∗ Data specifications layout and structure
    - ∗ Information on the data specification files
    - ∗ Detailed data specifications and other information
    - ∗ Specific conventions used throughout the specs
    - ∗ XML file structure for successful submission
    - ∗ Which CMG should be called for each discharge date
    - ∗ Unique ID assigned to each edit
    - ∗ Edits – Fatal vs. Warning
- ○ The 4 zip files include:
  - ♦ Data Dictionary: The Data Dictionary zip file is the Microsoft Access database that contains the entire set of IRF data dictionary tables used to generate the specification reports
  - ♦ PDF reports: The PDF zip file contains the detailed data specifications as well as an unduplicated edits report
  - ♦ CSV files: The CSV zip file contains 5 .csv files useful in creating software and reporting
  - ♦ HTML files: The HTML zip file contains a set of HTML files that can be viewed in your browser. These files contain the same information as is in the detailed data specs document. This is an alternative to the PDF version of the data specs
- ○ Submit questions regarding the IRF-PAI Data Specifications to the IRF-PAI technical issues mailbox: IRFTECHIssues@cms.hhs.gov

- **CMG DLL:**
  - ○ No logic changes
  - ○ Current grouper will still be used
  - ○ Continue to use the string documented in Appendix A of the CMG Grouper package

- **Validation Utility Tool (VUT)**
  - ○ CMS is planning to provide a standalone data entry tool that will create the required submission files

- ○ CMS will also provide a Validation Utility Tool, or the VUT, which vendors seem to find very helpful

    - ♦ Input an XML submission file

    - ♦ Generates output "_results" XML file listing any errors found

    - ♦ If no errors are found, the output file contains a single message, "no errors found"

    - ♦ Can be run in two modes - listener and stand-alone

        - ▫ Listener: "memory resident"; polls the input directory for unprocessed submission files; if it finds one, it processes it and writes the results file to the specified output directory

        - ▫ Stand-alone: processes one submission file at a time, then unloads itself from memory

    - ♦ Handles versioning; applies the appropriate validation logic for validating an assessment

    - ♦ Written in Java

    - ♦ Runs on Windows XP, Vista, 7 (32-bit). Note: 64 bit is not supported

- **Questions & Answers**

    - ○ Posted on the IRF Vendor page of the QTSO website