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Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 4
June 10, 2008

Proposed Outpatient Rules Posted on *Texas Register* (For Hospitals and ASC)

The proposed outpatient data collection and release rules are scheduled to be published in the Texas Register, June 13, 2008. <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>. Click the current issue buttons beginning June 13, 2008 through June 19, 2008 and for dates following June 20, 2008 click the previous issues buttons.

The proposed rules are in response to Senate Bill 1731 and require hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to submitted a required set of data elements for each patient that is provided one or more surgical or radiological procedures covered by the specified revenue codes from Hospitals (including Emergency Department Patients and Ambulatory Outpatients), and Ambulatory Surgical Centers.

The comment period will continue until the close of business July 14, 2008. Individuals or organizations who would like to comment "for" or "against" the rules should submit their comments to Bruce M. Burns, D.C., Center for Health Statistics, Department of State Health Services, Mail Code -1898, P.O. Box 149347, Austin, TX 78714-9347, Fax (512) 458-7740. Each comment should identify the specific section of the rules the comment is addressing.

2007 Public Use Data File

The 2007 PUDF is available for purchase. The order form is located on the THCIC web site at www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic.

The 1q07 PUDF was released in March 2008. The release dates for the remaining quarters are as follows.

2Q07 – June 2008

3Q07 – September 2008

4Q07 – December 2008

NPI Implementation and Facility Identification by THCIC (For Hospitals & ASC)

Many of you know that the HIPAA mandated National Provider Identification (NPI) number is required for submission of electronic transactions, including claims data beginning May 23, 2008.

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/nationalprovidentstand/>

Hospitals are required to provide THCIC with either an EIN or NPI for submission purposes. THCIC uses the six digit THCIC ID (REF02) along with the NPI or Employer Identification Number (EIN) (NM109 data field) and the Address field (N301) to verify the facility for which the data is being submitted. If each of the three values does not match what has been provided by the hospital to THCIC, the data submission file is rejected.

Recently there has been an increase in “rejected” hospital data submitted to THCIC/CCS. The majority of rejected files were due to **either the EIN** (Employer Identification Number) **or NPI** (National Provider Identification) **not matching** what is on file with THCIC.

History:

Until recently, all hospitals provided THCIC with their EIN. In the past nine months hospitals have begun to change that value with THCIC to reflect their NPI. Hospitals are not always notifying all of the organizations that transfer or receive the data of this change to their data file. This causes the hospital’s data file to reject at THCIC’s vendor, System 13, Inc, d.b.a. Commonwealth Clinical Systems. *Please note that THCIC prefers that all facilities move to the NPI beginning with third (3rd) quarter 2008 discharges to maintain consistency with federal guidelines, but either number, EIN or NPI, can be used, as long as the number that is provided to THCIC matches what is provided in the NM109 element field. A hospital may have more than one NPI, but only one identification number (NPI or EIN) is stored at THCIC and used for data submission verification.

Who changes the value in the NM109 element?

It differs with each hospital. It could be the hospital’s IT department, software vendor, submission vendor or someone else. The hospital needs to research this first and make the proper accommodations prior to changing the value with THCIC.

Hospitals are making this EIN/NPI change, knowingly or not, when a “THCIC Hospital Information

Contact Information Request” form <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/THCIC/hospitals/HospitalInformationRequest.doc> is signed by the Primary Contact person or the CEO or their designee and faxed (**512-458-7740**) to THCIC. This request form asks for the EIN or NPI that the hospital will be using in the modified ANSI 837 Institutional file format. *Be sure you know what is used in your data file before changing this number. And if you are changing the number, be sure you are notifying your vendors.

Suggested Steps:

- Plan ahead when changing an EIN or NPI. Check with vendors and payers to know which NPI is expected to appear on any transaction data set.
- Notify THCIC first of NPI or EIN that will be submitted on transaction data files. Make sure updates to the system are made.
- THCIC and CCS update both systems weekly with the “new” value.
- Updates can take approximately 5 working days. Data will continue to reject until all systems are synched with the same data.

Remember: A rejected file can reflect a late data submission, which can lead to a penalty.

Hospital Discharge Data Submission, Correction and Certification Training Session (For Hospitals)

Texas Health Care Information Collection (THCIC) is offering on-line training. The requirements to receive this training on-line are a phone line and a computer with high speed Internet access. We are encouraging those who have access to a high speed Internet enabled computer to take advantage of the training on-line.

If you are interested in receiving the training on-line, please e-mail your sign up information to tiffany.overton@dshs.state.tx.us

If your establishment cannot participate in on-line training, please contact Tiffany Overton by e-mail or call (512) 458-7111 ext 2352.

The on-line training schedule is as follows:

- ❖ Friday, July 11, 2008
- ❖ Friday, August 8, 2008

The times will be as follows:

9:00 AM	Upload and Download of Data Secured Server
10:00 AM	Data Correction and Data Correction Software
11:00 AM	Data Certification and CertView Software
12:00 PM	KeyClaim Software

Please provide the following information when signing up for training:

THCIC ID _____
 Hospital/Organization _____
 City _____
 Registrant Name _____
 Title _____
 Phone Number _____
 E-mail Address _____

Important Phone Numbers

THCIC web site – www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic
 DSHS-Center for Health Statistics – 512-458-7261
 CCS web site – www.thcichelp.com

THCIC Staff – 512-458-7111

Bruce Burns	extension 6431	Rules and policy issues, 837 format issues
Sylvia Cook	extension 6438	Hospital/ASC reports, data use
Wang-Shu Lu	extension 6453	Hospital/ASC reports and analysis
Michelle Robles	extension 3287	Project Manager
Dee Roes	extension 3374	Hospital/ASC compliance, data sales, research requests
Tiffany Overton	extension 2352	Hospital/ASC training (submission, correction, and certification)

THCIC fax – 512-458-7740