



CHS-THCIC • 1100 W. 49th Street • M-660 • Austin Texas 78756 • Phone 512-458-7261 • www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic

Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 1

March 7, 2008

Rules for outpatient data collection to be discussed March 12

Senate Bill 1731, passed in the last legislative session, provided funding for THCIC to begin collecting **outpatient surgical and radiological procedures from hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, and free-standing imaging centers**. The program expects the outpatient data collection process to be similar to the inpatient data collection process. The data collection system will be developed this year with testing expected to begin by the end of the year. More information on this process is available on the THCIC website: www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic/.

Draft rules will be reviewed at a meeting of stakeholders on Wednesday, March 12, at 2:00 at the Department of State Health Services. The rules are expected to be proposed by the Health and Human Services Commissioner and published in the *Texas Register* in April. The rules, as drafted, are on the THCIC website at www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic/OutpatientFacilities/OutpatientReportingRequirements.shtm.

If you are interested in attending the meeting on March 12, please send a request for additional information to THCIChelp@dshs.state.tx.us.

EIN vs. NPI and Rejected Data Submissions

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

Hospitals are required to provide THCIC with either an EIN or NPI for submission purposes. We use this value in the NM109 element for validation along with the THCIC ID number and the Submission Address. If all three values do not match what THCIC has on file (which was provided to THCIC by the hospital), the hospital data submission file is rejected.

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 passing along the same changes to their software vendors or data submission vendors and the information therefore is not being changed in the data file. This causes the hospital's data file to reject. *Please note that THCIC does not have a preference as to which number, EIN or NPI, is used, as long as the number that is provided to THCIC matches what is provided in the NM109 element field.

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 is sent to THCIC. This request form asks for the EIN or NPI that the hospital will be using in the 837 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.
- THCIC is first notified. Updates to that system are made.
- CCS is then sent the update and both systems are updated 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

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, April 11, 2008
- ❖ Friday, May 9, 2008
- ❖ Friday, June 6, 2008
- ❖ Friday, July 11, 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

Sylvia Cook extension 6438

Wang-Shu Lu extension 6453

Michelle Robles extension 3287

Dee Roes extension 3374

Tiffany Overton extension 2352

THCIC fax – 512-458-7740

Rules and policy issues, 837 format issues

Hospital/ASC reports, data use

Hospital/ASC reports and analysis

Project Manager

Hospital/ASC compliance, data sales, research requests

Hospital/ASC training (submission, correction, and certification)



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Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 2
May 1, 2008

Hospital Inpatient IQI and PDI 2006 Review

THCIC will release *Indicators of Inpatient Care in Texas Hospitals, 2006* and *Quality of Children's Care in Texas Hospitals, 2006* in August 2008. All hospitals that provided data for 2006 to THCIC will be given the opportunity to review and comment on the reports prior to its release. The hospital review and comment period will be from May 19, 2008 to July 17, 2008.

Notification letters were mailed on April 30th to all hospital administrators/CEO and addressed to the physical address of the hospital. The letter contains access information to review the reports, including a unique password and identifier.

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

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The on-line training schedule is as follows:

- ❖ Friday, June 6, 2008
- ❖ Friday, July 11, 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:

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Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 3
May 27, 2008

New Version of CertView for 4q07 Certification (For Hospitals)

A new version of CertView (4) will be released for reviewing the 4th quarter 2007 certification data. This change is required because of changes to Newborn Source codes, effective October 1, 2007. The codes 1-Normal Delivery, 2-Premature Delivery, 3-Sick Baby and 4-Extramural Birth changed to 5-Born inside this hospital and 6-Born outside this hospital. This change will affect the Summary Report (01) and look up tables for the physician reports. CertView (4) will not be compatible with certification files older than 4q07. Therefore, hospitals should keep a copy of the older version of CertView (3.1) in order to view older certification files.

Hospital Inpatient IQI and PDI 2006 Review (For Hospitals)

The hospital review and comment period on the *Indicators of Inpatient Care in Texas Hospitals, 2006* and *Quality of Children's Care in Texas Hospitals, 2006* began on **May 19, 2008**. An error was found in the AHRQ software for the Hip Fracture Mortality indicator. The software was corrected by AHRQ and the table has been updated. The review period for this indicator has been extended to **July 25, 2008**. All hospitals that provided data for 2006 to THCIC have an opportunity to review and comment on the report prior to its release in August 2008.

Hospital should login at www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic. Look for the "box" on the main page that indicates "review and comment".

2007 Public Use Data File

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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.

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

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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.

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Suggested Steps:

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- THCIC and CCS update both systems weekly with the “new” value.
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June 10, 2008

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Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 5
August 29, 2008

THCIC Helpdesk Changes

Effective September 2, 2008, the THCIC helpdesk will limit hospitals/submitters to ten minutes per call session. Hospitals/submitters may have only two call sessions per day, or one e-mail and one call session per day. The purpose of the helpdesk is for basic information. This includes:

- ❖ Resetting a mailbox password
- ❖ Obtaining a certification file password
- ❖ Setting up KeyClaim users header files
- ❖ Changing “submitter” contact information
- ❖ Contracting a regeneration of certification file
- ❖ Additional copies of certification file

The THCIC helpdesk should not to be used for the following:

- ❖ Hospital IT issues
- ❖ Verifying data submissions (hospital primary contact should be verifying via the FER received in their electronic mailbox 48 hours after a data submission)
- ❖ Training on submission, correction, and certification
- ❖ Submission testing issues (after each test file is submitted, a report is sent by e-mail to the submitter detailing the problem areas within the file, which must be corrected before another test file is sent)

Contact Dee Roes at 512-458-7111 ext.3374 or Dee.Roes@dshs.state.tx.us if submitter test/production files reject due to a submission address or EIN/NPI number.

The helpdesk does not provide training on the submission, correction, or certification of data. All training is provided by Tiffany Overton at DSHS. Hospitals that have questions concerning the submission, correction, or certification of data, or use of the data correction or certification software should contact Tiffany Overton at 512-458-7111 ext.2352 or Tiffany.Overton@dshs.state.tx.us.

The purpose of this change is to redirect hospitals to the proper channels for training and to eliminate a “bottle-neck” effect at the helpdesk, as this is not a helpdesk function. It will also relieve the helpdesk of tasks that each hospital should be verifying itself (i.e. hospital should download the FER for verifying a data submission or correction instead of asking the helpdesk to look it up). These changes should result in faster access to the helpdesk.

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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:

- September 12
- October 10
- November 14
- December 12

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 _____
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Title _____
Phone Number _____
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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.

First through third quarter 2007 have been released. The 4th quarter 2007 PUDF will be released in December.

Indicators of Inpatient Care in Texas Hospitals, 2006

The annual report on the quality of care in hospitals is expected to be released September 5. The report was reviewed by hospitals earlier this summer.

New CertView Version 4.1 Available September 2, 2008

There is a new version of the CertView software. It is version 4.1, which will be available for download September 2, 2008. The update was necessary because of changes to the CMS DRGs.

In order to view your first quarter 2008 data you must have the new CertView 4.1 on your PC. The new version will not allow you upload earlier data. You will still need to have version 3.2 on your PC to view earlier data. (Please note fourth quarter 2007 data will load into the new 4.1 version.)

Important Phone Numbers

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Key Activity Due Dates by Quarter

Activity	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008
Cutoff for initial submission			9-1-08	12-1-08	3-1-09
Cutoff for corrections			11-1-08	2-1-09	5-1-09
Hospitals retrieve certification files		9-1-08	12-1-08	3-1-09	6-1-09
Cutoff for corrections at time of certification		10-15-08	1-15-09	4-15-09	7-15-09
Final encounters available to hospitals		11-1-08	2-1-09	5-1-09	8-1-09
Certification letters/comments due	9-1-08	12-1-08	3-1-09	6-1-09	9-1-09



Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 6

October 7, 2008

Hospitals Inquire About Missing Claims

System13/Commonwealth Clinical Systems (CCS), THCIC's data warehouse vendor, compares the number of claims submitted by hospitals with the number of claims submitted in previous quarters and notified some hospitals when the number submitted was significantly different. After System13 and Thomson Reuters, a data submission vendor for some hospitals, investigated this issue, it was discovered that when a hospital submits an xx1 and a corresponding xx7 replacement claim in the same batch/functional group file through Thomson Reuters, Thomson Reuters replaces the xx1 claim with the xx7 claim and submits one claim to THCIC as an xx7 replacement claim. Since THCIC never receives the associated xx1 claim from Thomson Reuters, the xx7 replacement claim is processed as a "widow" claim and doesn't get processed for the certification/encounter file.

THCIC accepts several type of billing claims. Those that are accepted are: xx1, xx2, xx3, xx4, xx5, xx7, and xx8. The majority of bill types that are submitted are xx1 (admit through discharge claim), xx7 (replacement claim), and xx8 (delete claim).

Missing claims can occur when an xx7 replacement claim is submitted without submitting an xx1 claim. With no xx1 claim, THCIC has nothing to replace with the xx7 replacement claim. This causes the xx7 replacement claim to become a "widow" claim. "Widow" claims never make it to the Certification/Encounter file.

Hospitals can and should review the "Discharge By Bill Type" table on the first page of the Frequency of Error Report (FER); this is where you may see that xx7s were received by THCIC instead of xx1s. For example: A hospital submits 25 original xx1 and 25 associated xx7 claims (which are intended to replace the 25-xx1s) in the same batch/functional group file. When Thomson Reuters processes the claims, the 25-xx1s are replaced with the 25-xx7s and only the 25-xx7s are submitted to THCIC. The hospital would see on its FER that THCIC received 25-xx7s and not what was submitted to Thomson Reuters by the hospital. Hospitals noticing that not all the claims were submitted to THCIC still have time to correct this with their vendor during the THCIC "correction phase" at no cost to the hospital through THCIC. THCIC is not aware of receiving xx7s without a matching xx1 from other submitters, but hospitals should check the FER report to be sure THCIC is receiving all their claims.

Hospitals that do not review the FER may not notice claims are missing until the THCIC "certification phase" and must pay to have the missing claims added to the certification file.

Thomson Reuters has stated they are not planning to make modifications to their system concerning this issue. Therefore, hospitals should be aware that if they are submitting to THCIC via Thomson Reuters, claims will not be included in the certification file if there are original xx1

and associated xx7 claims in the same batch/functional group file. To insure that THCIC is receiving all intended claims in accordance with Chapter 108, Texas Health and Safety Code please review all reports carefully. It may be best if the original xx1 claims and the associated xx7 claims are submitted in different batch/functional group files.

THCIC Helpdesk Changes

Effective September 2, 2008, the THCIC helpdesk will limit hospitals/submitters to ten minutes per call session. Hospitals/submitters may have only two call sessions per day, or one e-mail and one call session per day. The purpose of the helpdesk is for basic information. This includes:

- ❖ Resetting a mailbox password
- ❖ Obtaining a certification file password
- ❖ Setting up KeyClaim users header files
- ❖ Changing “submitter” contact information
- ❖ Contracting a regeneration of certification file
- ❖ Additional copies of certification file

The THCIC helpdesk should **not** to be used for the following:

- ❖ Hospital IT issues
- ❖ Verifying data submissions (hospital primary contact should be verifying via the FER received in their electronic mailbox 48 hours after a data submission)
- ❖ Training on submission, correction, and certification
- ❖ Submission testing issues (after each test file is submitted, a report is sent by e-mail to the submitter detailing the problem areas within the file, which must be corrected before another test file is sent)

Contact Dee Roes at 512-458-7111 ext.3374 or Dee.Roes@dshs.state.tx.us if submitter test/production files reject due to a submission address or EIN/NPI number.

The helpdesk does not provide training on the submission, correction, or certification of data. All training is provided by Tiffany Overton at DSHS. Hospitals that have questions concerning the submission, correction, or certification of data, or use of the data correction or certification software should contact Tiffany Overton at 512-458-7111 ext.2352 or Tiffany.Overton@dshs.state.tx.us for training.

The purpose of this change is to redirect hospitals to the proper channels for training and to eliminate a “bottle-neck” effect at the helpdesk, as this is not a helpdesk function. It will also relieve the helpdesk of tasks that each hospital should be verifying itself (i.e. hospital should download the FER for verifying a data submission or correction instead of asking the helpdesk to look it up). These changes should result in faster access to the helpdesk.

System13 Charges Increase

Item	Effective 09/01/08
Charge to hospitals for data distribution on hard media	\$30.00
Hourly programming charge	\$92.50
Rate for corrections during certification	\$92.50
Rate for recreating certification files	\$362.00
Rate for rush order	\$273.00

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

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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:

- November 14
- December 12
- January 9, 2009
- February 6, 2009
- March 6, 2009

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 _____

Regional Public Use Data File

Effective December 31, 2008 THCIC will no longer offer the regional PUDF data file. This is due to resources at THCIC and low volume regional PUDF sales.

Important Phone Numbers

THCIC web site – www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic

DSHS-Center for Health Statistics-THCIC – 512-458-7261

System13 web site – www.thcichelp.com

THCIC Helpdesk – 888-308-4953

THCIC Staff – 512-458-7111

Bruce Burns extension 6431

Sylvia Cook extension 6438

Wang-Shu Lu extension 6453

Dee Roes extension 3374

Tiffany Overton extension 2352

Rules and policy issues, 837 format issues

Hospital/ASC reports, data use

Hospital/ASC reports and analysis

Hospital/ASC compliance, research file requests

Hospital/ASC training (submission, correction, and certification)

THCIC fax – 512-458-7740

Key Activity Due Dates by Quarter

Activity	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008
Cutoff for initial submission			9-1-08	12-1-08	3-1-09
Cutoff for corrections			11-1-08	2-1-09	5-1-09
Hospitals retrieve certification files		9-1-08	12-1-08	3-1-09	6-1-09
Cutoff for corrections at time of certification		10-15-08	1-15-09	4-15-09	7-15-09
Final encounters available to hospitals		11-1-08	2-1-09	5-1-09	8-1-09
Certification letters/comments due	9-1-08	12-1-08	3-1-09	6-1-09	9-1-09



CHS-THCIC • 1100 W. 49th Street • M-660 • Austin Texas 78756 • Phone 512-458-7261 • www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic

Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 7
October 24, 2008

CMS-DRG, APR-DRG Incorrectly Assigned to 4q07 – 1q08 Cert Files (For Hospitals)

System13, Inc., the contractor formerly known as Commonwealth Clinical Systems (CCS) that collects and processes the inpatient discharge data, has found that CMS-DRGs and APR-DRGs were not always correctly assigned for fourth quarter 2007 and first quarter 2008 data. The two assigned DRGs and the severity of illness scores were affected for each facility.

System13 will correct this problem (by re-processing each facilities existing data through the CMS-DRG and APR-DRG software tools) and provide the certification files for 4th quarter 2007 and 1st quarter 2008 containing the corrected reports for your review. These files will be available for **download on Tuesday, October 28**. The original submitted data will be the same unless you have contracted with System13, Inc. to have 1Q08 data modified (e.g., late data submissions, physician errors or deletion of duplicate claims) prior to the deadline for corrections at the time of certification.

The corrected DRGs **affect only the reports** available to you during the certification process. Certification reports C04 and C05 were not affected. Hospitals are encouraged to review the corrected files. If a hospital chooses to change how it certified **4th quarter data** (e.g., Certify without comments, Certify with comments), the deadline for re-certifying the 4th quarter data is December 1. If a hospital wishes to change a certification comment, it must be sent to System13 by the **December 1st** deadline.

The deadline for certifying **1st quarter 2008** has been extended to **January 2, 2009** and the deadline for corrections at time of certification has been extended to November 15, 2008. Hospitals having already submitted a certification letter for 1q08 do not need to submit another one unless there is a change in how it is certifying.

Questions may be directed to the THCIC Helpdesk at 888-308-4953.

FREE Public Use Data File (PUDF)

The 1999 – 2001 PUDF have been posted on the THCIC web site for free download to the public. The files may be found at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic/Hospitals/HospitalData.shtm>.

4q07 PUDF Release Delayed

Due to the extended certification for the 4q07 data, THCIC will not be releasing the 4q07 Public Use Data File (PUDF) in December as currently scheduled. The release will be delayed by 30 days and scheduled for January 2009.

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Certification letters/comments due	*12-1-08	*1-2-09	3-1-09	6-1-09	9-1-09

*Extended deadline



Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 11 Number 8

December 1, 2008

Outpatient Data Collection

The final rules for the collection and release of patient level data relating to outpatients who have surgical or radiological procedures performed in Texas hospitals (as an outpatient service including in the emergency department) or ambulatory surgical centers have been adopted and were published in the November 28 issue (*33 TexReg 9694*) of the *Texas Register* (<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>). The rules go into effect 90 days after publication, or on February 25, 2009.

The THCIC outpatient data collection system is still being developed. Training of outpatient facilities will begin in the spring. Data must be submitted for patients who have one or more surgical or radiological procedure covered by specific revenue codes. The list of revenue codes is included in the rules 25 TAC §421.67(f) and is also available on the THCIC website at www.dshs.state.tx.us/THCIC/OutpatientFacilities/OutpatientReportingRequirements.shtm. The website includes the Technical Specifications for submitting outpatient data. Data must be submitted beginning with services provided in third quarter 2009 (July, August, and September 2009 services) and due to THCIC no later than December 1, 2009. The data submission schedule is also available on the THCIC website.

4q07 PUDF Release Delayed

Due to the extended certification for the 4q07 data, THCIC will release the 4q07 Public Use Data File (PUDF) in late December.

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*Extended deadline