



Texas Health Care Information Council

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Installing a New Version of CertView Information/Operations

These instructions assume that you have the previous version of CertView installed on your computer. [If you do not, you should download it and install CertView from the THCIC website via the Internet].

1. Go to: www.comclin.net/diana.
2. Click the link that says: Certification software for 2Q00.
3. Select "save to disk". [Be sure to remember where you're saving the file. The file is about 10mb in size].
4. After the file download is completed, do the following before installation:
 - a. Open up Windows Explorer.
 - b. Click the plus sign next to the words "Program files". [This will drop down a list of folders].
 - c. Click once on the word CertView. [In the right pane, you will see a file called certview.mde].
 - d. Place your mouse (pointer) in the right pane, bringing up a drop down menu.
 - e. Locate the word "delete" on the drop down menu and LEFT click on it. [This will delete the file].
5. Install the new CertView software by double clicking the downloaded file.

Restriction on Use of the Public Use Data File (PUDF)

Information

THCIC would like to remind purchasers of the PUDF that purchasers have the responsibility as follows:

"The licensee will not permit others to copy, sell, rent, license, lease, loan, or otherwise grant access to the data covered by this Agreement to any other person or entity, unless approved in writing by THCIC".

If your hospital is part of a system or corporation that has purchased the PUDF, your hospital must also have a license issued by THCIC in order to access the data. Unlicensed sharing of data is in violation of Chapter 108, Health and Safety Code, and is punishable by a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 under section 108.014.

Please call 512-482-3312 if you are unsure whether your hospital holds a license to use the data.

THCIC Reports

Information

We expect to make the fourth quarter of hospital discharge data available for purchase during June. Overall, the 1999 discharge files will include almost 2.5 million encounters covering patients in 400+ hospitals. But what will become of it?

Last December, we explained to media reporters the research-based reasons to not develop hospital-based comparison reports until at least four full quarters of data are available. Well, the reporters responded in a responsible manner and waited... but don't be the least bit surprised if hospital-to-hospital comparisons show-up in your local papers soon after the data for 4Q99 is released.

Hospitals should begin NOW (if not already) to study their data in comparison to that of other hospitals (locally and statewide) so that the local news doesn't "blindsides" them. Whatever the topic, if your hospital is #1 on a list, you can usually "wing it" when asked for a response or comment... but if you're not #1, what will your response be when your hospital is compared to the #1 hospital?

Data for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarter 1999 is now available for purchase. NOW is the time to familiarize yourself with the data and to begin development of preliminary reports. To learn more about the data or to order it, visit THCIC's Web site at www.thcic.state.tx.us or call 512/482-3312.

HIPAA Update

Administrative

A news article, "AHA NEWS NOW Special Report", dated 4/12 reports that President Bush has decided against delaying or substantially changing the HIPAA privacy regulations. This means that the privacy regulations will become effective on the 14th of this month and have an implementation date of April 14, 2003. All health care providers and payors are affected by these regulations. We will share additional information as it becomes available to us.

A copy of this article may be found at www.hhs.gov/news/press/2001pres/20010412.html.

Upcoming Meetings or Training

- **HMO TAC meeting:** May 8, 2001
- **HIS TAC meeting:** May 17, 2001
- **HIS TAC meeting:** May 24, 2001
- **THCIC Hospital Training:** June 5, 2001 in Austin
- **CE TAC meeting:** June 6, 2001
- **QM TAC meeting:** June 18, 2001

Agendas for all Technical Advisory Committee, Committee, and Council meetings are posted on the THCIC web site and the Texas Register seven days prior to the meeting date.

Reminders and Deadlines

- **All claims submitted with discharges after April 2, 2001 must be in version 6.0**
- Last day to submit written comments on the proposed HDD Rules – April, 16, 2001
- Cutoff for submission of 3q00 claims corrections – April 28, 2001
- Last day to submit changes for 2q00 certification – May 9, 2001

