IRVEN: CMS's IRF-PAI Data Entry Software

What is IRVEN?

IRVEN (Inpatient Rehabilitation Validation and Entry) system is a computerized data entry system for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF). IRVEN offers users the ability to collect the IRF Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) in a database and will create a file in CMS-standard format that can be electronically transmitted to the IRF-PAI National database. The data collected is used for assessing the clinical characteristics of patients in rehabilitation hospitals and rehabilitation units in acute care hospitals. The data will provide survey agencies with a means to objectively measure and compare facility performance and quality. It will also provide researchers with information to support the development of improved standards. The data entry software imports and exports data in standard CMS record format. The software maintains facility and patient information, enforces data integrity via rigorous edit checks, and provides comprehensive online help. It includes a data dictionary and a grouper calculation.

Can I still use the old version of IRVEN, or the old version of my vendor software, to record patient assessment data and transmit that data?

Providers will be allowed to continue to use the old version of IRVEN, or old version of their vendor software, after October 15, 2002. However, in some instances using the old version of the IRVEN, or old version of vendor software, after October 15, 2002, may not permit you to accurately record some types of patient assessment data, or permit you to transmit your patient data. These types of data recording and data transmission problems were discussed in several of the frequently asked questions and answers that CMS previously posted on the IRF PPS website. To solve these types of problems was why CMS revised the IRVEN, and distributed revised data specifications to vendors. In addition, the revised IRVEN, and revised data specifications distributed to vendors, allows you to use the most current version of an ICD-9-CM code to code the comorbidities that were specified in the August 7, 2001, Final Rule. Also, the range of codes allowed for the admission coding of IRF-PAI items Comprehension (item 39Na) and Expression (item 39Oa) were changed from 00-07 to 01-07 (i.e., 00 was removed from the list of valid codes). Additional information regarding how the revised IRVEN, and revised vendor data specifications, affect the recording of IRF-PAI data can be obtained by using the link associated with the answer to the question directly below.

Does the revised IRVEN software, and associated data specifications, change how the data for some IRF-PAI data items can be recorded?

Yes. To understand how click here.

What kind of computer do I need?

The minimum system requirement is an IBM-compatible PC with Pentium 200 MHz or higher processor, a VGA-compatible display monitor, and Microsoft Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows ME, Windows NT, Windows 2000, or Windows XP operating system. Also needed is a Microsoft-compatible mouse or pointing device, a hard disk

with a minimum of 40 megabytes of space, 16 megabytes of RAM (32 are recommended for Windows 95/98/ME/NT/2000), and a CD-ROM drive.

A laser printer will be needed to print reports.

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How can I obtain the revised IRVEN?

The IRVEN Production Version 1.1 (9/27/2002) and other associated files can be downloaded using the links below:

View the intro (irfintro.pdf; 39kb PDF file) that describes the contents of IRVEN.

Read the instructions on installation (readme.zip; 8kb ZIP file).

Download the software (setupirf.zip, ZIP file).

Is there a Data Submission User's Guide?

Yes, at https://www.qtso.com/irfpai.html.

Is there a guide that contains information concerning the messages I receive after I transmit the IRF PAI data record?

Yes, at https://www.qtso.com/irfpai.html.

Is technical support available?

Yes, there will be an IRVEN Support Desk to help you with technical problems and concerns with the software. The number to call is 1-800-339-9313. You may also e-mail requests for assistance to irven_help@ifmc.org.

Note: This page includes links to specialized data and multimedia files. Viewing these files requires the use of a third-party plug-in or viewer. For more information or to test whether your computer can read these files, visit our File Formats and Plug-Ins page.