

CMS Manual System

Pub 100-08 Medicare Program Integrity

Transmittal 117

Department of Health &
Human Services

Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services

Date: AUGUST 5, 2005

Change Request 3996

SUBJECT: Revise the Medicare Contractor System (MCS) and the VIPS Medicare System (VMS) to Allow Update of the Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (CERT) Program Resolution File Within Five Business Days of a CERT Request

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: Currently, the MCS cannot provide all data requested for inclusion in the CERET sampled claims resolution file within 5 days and VMS cannot provide correct resolution codes within 5 working days. If CERT makes a request in the first half of the month, the MCS can provide all data CERT requests. However, for requests made during the second half of the month, the MCS cannot provide data until after the MCS runs the Program Integrity Management Reporting (PIMR) module. MCS runs the PIMR module once per month usually within the first 5 days of the month. CERT responses for VMS also depend on the PIMR module; however, the VMS system depends on the PIMR module only to put the correct resolution code in the records it puts in the resolution file but does not put a record in the resolution file when the PIMR module has not run for that record. This CR requires that the MCS and VMS maintainers revise the shared system to allow the MCS to produce a CERT resolution file with the correct resolution code for all adjudicated claims in the CERT transaction file within 5 working days of receipt of the CERT transaction file.

NEW/REVISED MATERIAL :

EFFECTIVE DATE : January 3, 2006

IMPLEMENTATION DATE : January 3, 2006

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply only to red italicized material. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revise information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS: (N/A if manual is not updated)

R/N/D	CHAPTER/SECTION/SUBSECTION/TITLE
N/A	

III. FUNDING:

No additional funding will be provided by CMS; contractor activities are to be carried out within their FY 2006 operating budgets.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

One-Time Notification

**Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.*

Attachment – One Time Notification

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SUBJECT: Revise the Medicare Contractor System (MCS) and the VIPS Medicare System (VMS) to Allow Update of the Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (CERT) Program Resolution File Within Five Business Days of a CERT Request

GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: The Medicare Program Integrity Manual (PIM), Chapter 12 – Carrier, DMERC, FI, and full PSC Interaction with the Comprehensive Error Rate Testing Contractor, Section 12.3.3.1 - Providing Sample Information to the CERT Contractor - requires:

“Requests for claim information will be transmitted in the format specified in the sampled claims transaction file section of Exhibits 34.1 (carriers and DMERCs) and 34.2 (FIs and RHHIs). The AC’s response must be made using NDM and the formats provided for the sampled claims resolution file in Exhibit 34.1 (carriers and DMERCs) and 34.2 (FIs and RHHIs). Full PSCs are not responsible for this task.

“The ACs/full PSCs must coordinate with the CERT contractor to provide the requested information for claims identified in the sample in an electronic format. The sampling module will reside on a server in the CMS Data Center (CMSDC). The ACs/full PSCs will use the sampling module at the CMSDC.

“The ACs/full PSCs must submit a file daily to the CERT contractor (via CONNECT:Direct) containing information on claims entered during the day. Estimated claim volume is 2000 claims/cluster/year.

“The ACs/full PSCs must respond to the CERT contractor within 5 working days of receipt of the request from the CERT contractor. If the AC/full PSC receives a request for a claim that is no longer in the system or a claim that needed to be replaced, the AC/full PSC must provide a legitimate reason and send appropriate documents to the CERT contractor. In the case that a claim is requested for a patient that does not exist, the AC/full PSC should contact the provider.”

Currently, the MCS cannot provide all data requested for inclusion in the CERET sampled claims resolution file within 5 days and VMS cannot provide correct resolution codes within 5 working days. If CERT makes a request in the first half of the month, the MCS can provide all data CERT requests. However, for requests made during the second half of the month, the MCS cannot provide data until after the MCS runs the Program Integrity Management Reporting (PIMR) module. MCS runs the PIMR module once per month usually within the first 5 days of the month. CERT responses for VMS also depend on the PIMR module; however, the VMS system depends on the PIMR module only to put the correct resolution code in the records it puts in the resolution file but does not put a record in the resolution file when the PIMR module has not run for that record. This CR requires that the MCS and VMS maintainers revise the shared system to allow the MCS to produce a CERT resolution file with the correct resolution code for all adjudicated claims in the CERT transaction file within 5 working days of receipt of the CERT transaction file.

B. Policy: The PIM, Chapter 12 – Carrier, DMERC, FI and full PSC Interaction with the Comprehensive Error Rate Testing Contractor, Section 12.3.3.1 requires the following for the Paid Claims Resolution file, the Provider Address file, and the Claims Replica file: “The ACs/full PSCs must respond to the CERT contractor within 5 working days of receipt of the request from the CERT contractor.”

II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Number	Requirements	Responsibility (“X” indicates the columns that apply)								
		F I	R H I	C a r r i e r	D M E R C	Shared System Maintainers				Other
						F I S S	M C S	V M S	C W F	
3996.1	The MCS and VMS shared system maintainers shall modify the MCS and VMS system modules that produces the CERT sampled claims resolution file record (including the correct resolution code) to allow the module to always respond to a CERT request for information within 5 working days of the request. By January 3, 2006, a modification to MCS and VMS shall be available to contractor data centers that allows contractors to send sample claims resolution files (including the correct resolution code) for an adjudicate claim within 5 working days of a CERT request.						X	X		
3996.2	By January 3, 2006, contractor data centers shall implement, operate, and maintain the shared system changes specified in requirement 3996.1 and provided by shared system maintainers.			X	X					
3996.3	By January 3, 2006, contractors shall insure that their data centers have correctly implemented and are operating the changes developed by the shared system to meet requirement 3996.1 of this CR.			X	X					

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION

Requirement Number	Requirements	Responsibility (“X” indicates the columns that apply)								
		F I	R H H I	C a r r i e r	D M E R C	Shared System Maintainers				Other
F I S S	M C S					V M S	C W F			
N/A										
	None									

IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

A. Other Instructions: N/A

X-Ref Requirement #	Instructions

B. Design Considerations: N/A

X-Ref Requirement #	Recommendation for Medicare System Requirements
3996.1	The shared system maintainers may develop an approach that (1) Allows the section of the PIMR module that assigns a correct activity code to run daily, (2) develop a new module that assigns a correct CERT resolution code daily, or (3) some other system modification that will allow the MCS and VMS system to include information (including the correct resolution code) on an adjudicated claim in a sample claims resolution file that the shared system produces within 5 working days of a request.

C. Interfaces: N/A

D. Contractor Financial Reporting /Workload Impact: NA

E. Dependencies: N/A

F. Testing Considerations: N/A

IV. SCHEDULE, CONTACTS, AND FUNDING

<p>Effective Date*: January 3, 2006</p> <p>Implementation Date: January 3, 2006</p> <p>Pre-Implementation Contact(s): John Stewart (410) 786-1189 or John.Stewart@cms.hhs.gov</p> <p>Post-Implementation Contact(s): John Stewart (410) 786-1189 or John.Stewart@cms.hhs.gov</p>	<p>No additional funding will be provided by CMS; contractor activities are to be carried out within their FY 2006 operating budgets.</p>
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