

CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services
Pub 100-01 Medicare General Information, Eligibility, and Entitlement	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Transmittal 53	Date: SEPTEMBER 26, 2008
	Change Request 6110

SUBJECT: Medicare Contractor Testing with Future Dates in the EDC

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: The purpose of this change request is to address the requirement for future dated testing, which necessitates the installation and support of a system date simulation tool at the Enterprise Data Center (EDC).

NEW / REVISED MATERIAL

EFFECTIVE DATE: *October 27, 2008

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: October 27, 2008

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/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

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

R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED-*Only One Per Row.*

R/N/D	Chapter / Section / Subsection / Title
R	7/40.3.5/ Contractor (User) Testing Requirements
R	7/40.3.6/Testing Requirements Applicable to All CWF Data Centers (Hosts)

III. FUNDING:

SECTION A: For Fiscal Intermediaries and Carriers:

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

SECTION B: For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

Business Requirements

Manual Instruction

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

Number	Requirement	A / B M A C	D M E M A C	F I	C A R R I E R	R H I	H I G L A S	Standard-System Maintainers				OTHER
								F I S S	M C S	V M S	C W F	
	UAT environment for each Medicare Contractor and MAC.											
6110.3.2	The EDC shall set-up and configure all Validate tables including but not limited to security, job prefix, job name, and CICS-region tables.										EDC	
6110.3.3	The EDC shall define a “system date request process”, by which the Medicare Contractor and MAC community can specify the system date for the UAT environments through consensus at their appropriate Functional Workgroup (FWG), i.e., the FISS FWG, the MCS FWG, or VMS DMOP TAG.										EDC	
6110.3.4	The EDC shall document the process and provide it to CMS and each FWG.										EDC	
6110.3.5	The EDC shall set the system date for each UAT “test environment”. A UAT “test environment” includes the UAT CICS region and all batch jobs for the Medicare Contractor or MAC.										EDC	
6110.3.6	The EDC shall set the system date as requested by the appropriate FWG or DMOP TAG through the EDC’s “system date request process”.										EDC	

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Number	Requirement	Responsibility (place an “X” in each applicable column)									
		A / B M A C	D M E M A C	F I	C A R R I E R	R H I	Shared-System Maintainers				OTHER
							F I S S	M C S	V M S	C W F	
	None.										

IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

A. For any recommendations and supporting information associated with listed requirements, use the box below:

Use "Should" to denote a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:

B. For all other recommendations and supporting information, use this space:

V. CONTACTS

Pre-Implementation Contact(s): Shannon Seales at (410) 786-1884, or Scott Mueller at 410-786-0408.

Post-Implementation Contact(s): Shannon Seales at (410) 786-1884, or Scott Mueller at 410-786-0408.

VI. FUNDING:

A. For Fiscal Intermediaries, Carriers and Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs):

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

B. For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

40.3.5 – Contractor (User) Testing Requirements

(Rev. 53; Issued: 09-26-08; Effective/Implementation Date: 10-27-08)

Medicare Contractors are not mandated to prepare and execute test cases that cover Medicare business requirements implemented within the base system in standard system and CWF quarterly releases. Maintainers and Beta testers are fully responsible for testing the base functionality. The Medicare Contractors (users) shall test their local/unique components and conduct a limited, end-to-end, operational test.

1. Contractors shall fully test their local components and processing rules prior to production implementation of the quarterly release. This testing is applicable for all local components and processing rules modified since the previous quarterly release.
 - A. Contractors shall test any system components they maintain and implement to support claims processing in addition to the base system. This includes front-end and back-end components such as those for EDI entry and translation, EDI outbound processing, and printing (e.g., MSN generation).
 - B. Contractors shall test changes they make to user control files, facilities, and tables in order to implement new Medicare policy or business rules. Examples of these facilities include but are not limited to auto adjudication facilities (e.g., SuperOps and MCS SCF) and the MCS SPITAB.
 - C. A Medicare Contractor shall fully test any standard system functionality that was:
 - Developed by the standard system maintainer solely for them, or
 - Developed by the standard system maintainer under a special project in which they were the exclusive participant.

An example would be a carrier working with CMS on a special demonstration project. In this example the carrier shall fully test the standard system functional that was implemented for the demonstration project.

2. Contractors shall complete a limited end-to-end operational test that incorporates the standard system release, integrated with their other claims processing components. These components include the front-end for claims receipt, translators, the CWF, the financials, and back-end EDI and report generation. The test must ensure that processing is contiguous from claims entry, to claims adjudication, and ultimately remittance and Medicare Summary Notice generation. Through contiguous processing, the interfaces between all key claims processing components must be exercised. The banking system interfaces such as National Clearing House (NCH) transfers need not be exercised. The test is limited in the number of test cases that are required, since maintainers and Beta testers are testing the base functionality of the standard system.
 - A. Contractors shall ensure that the integrated systems software can complete cycles without system abends and produce the expected output. The Medicare Contractor shall ensure their operational test:

- Exercises all claims entry points not fully incorporated in the base system such as paper and EMC front-end components;
 - Includes all allowable standard electronic formats and versions;
 - Includes a variety of claims types; and
 - Includes all components that support their claims workload and interfaces to the standard system.
- B. The operational test shall include the most recent standard system release received prior to the initiation of the test. The Medicare Contractor shall initiate the test as required to ensure its completion and the reporting of any problem prior to production implementation.
3. CMS strongly encourages the standard system user community to promote:
- Standardizing their system nationally,
 - Centralizing any table maintenance that implements national Medicare policy at the system maintainer level, and
 - Minimizing local variations.
4. Medicare Contractors may perform additional testing on the standard system or duplicate Beta testing tasks as time permits. At the discretion of their Regional Offices, Medicare Contractors may be required to separately document any testing they perform in addition to their mandated testing.
5. *Medicare Contractors shall test any business rule or event with future dates that they code or set-up in their Auto Adjudication Software (AAS), prior to implementing the rule or event into production. Examples of AAS include but are not limited to SuperOp, SCF, the Shack, and the Mill.*
- a. *Fiscal Intermediaries and Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACS) shall submit their date simulation recommendations to the FISS FWG in advance and participate in discussions at the FWG calls, as required to reach consensus on a date simulation schedule.*
 - b. *Carriers and Part A/B MACS shall submit their date simulation recommendations to the MCS FWG in advance and participate in discussions at the FWG calls, as required to reach consensus on a date simulation schedule.*
 - c. *DME-MACS shall submit their date simulation recommendations to the DMOP TAG in advance and participate in discussions at the DMOP TAG calls, as required to reach consensus on a date simulation schedule.*

- d. *The FISS FWG, MCS FWG, and DMOP TAG shall use the “system date request process” to provide the EDC(s) their latest “run-date simulation” schedule for their FISS, MCS, and VMS UAT environments.*

- e. *The FWG or DMOP TAG shall maintain their “run-date simulation” schedule for a **minimum** of 14 calendars days in advance. Here is an example of a “run-date simulation” schedule:*

Calendar Date	System Run Date	Calendar Date	System Run Date	Calendar Date	System Run Date
09/08/2008	10/01/2008	09/17/2008	11/01/2008	09/26/2008	12/05/2008
09/09/2008	10/02/2008	09/18/2008	11/02/2008	09/27/2008	12/06/2008
09/10/2008	10/03/2008	09/19/2008	12/05/2008	09/28/2008	12/08/2008
09/11/2008	10/04/2008	09/20/2008	12/06/2008	09/29/2008	12/09/2008
09/12/2008	10/14/2008	09/21/2008	12/07/2008	09/30/2008	12/10/2008
09/13/2008	10/15/2008	09/22/2008	10/17/2008	10/01/2008	12/11/2008
09/14/2008	10/16/2008	09/23/2008	10/31/2008	10/02/2008	12/12/2008
09/15/2008	10/17/2008	09/24/2008	11/01/2008	10/03/2008	10/03/2008
09/16/2008	10/31/2008	09/25/2008	11/02/2008	10/04/2008	10/04/2008

- f. *The FISS FWG, MCS FWG, and DMOP TAG shall provide a copy of their “run-date simulation” schedule to their CWF test host.*

- g. *The FISS FWG and MCS FWG shall provide a copy of their “run-date simulation” schedule to the HIGLAS test site as required to accommodate their HIGLAS enabled contractors.*

40.3.6 – Testing Requirements Applicable to all CWF Data Centers (Hosts)

(Rev. 53; Issued: 09-26-08; Effective/Implementation Date: 10-27-08)

Each CWF data center or CWF sector host shall:

- Forward all satellite software and documentation to the satellites (contractors) to which they serve as the primary production host;
- Install the CWF quarterly release software in a designated test region;
- Make the designated test region available their satellites (users) for testing;
- Coordinate test data, such as beneficiary data, with the user testers;
- Process all satellite files submitted by the users and return all corresponding reply files generated for users;
- Report release problems to the CWF Maintainer and CMS;
- Verify with CMS that each of its satellites submitted at least one test file during user testing; and
- *The CWF Host shall support future date testing by the FIs, Carriers, and MACs.*
- *The CWF Host shall review date simulation schedule submitted by the FISS FWG, MCS FWG, and DMOP TAG.*