
Program Memorandum

Carriers

Department of Health &
Human Services (DHHS)
Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services (CMS)

Transmittal B-01-52

Date: AUGUST 15, 2001

CHANGE REQUEST 1800

SUBJECT: Changes to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Part B Standard System Carrier (HPBSS) Responsibility (Accelerate, Claims Collection Software)

In support of the transition of UnitedHealth Group claims processing to other contractors, CMS, formerly the Health Care Financing Administration, directed Electronic Data Systems, Inc. (EDS) to maintain the PC-based Electronic Data Interchange claim collection software, known as *Accelerate*, for carriers using HPBSS. This decision was made to ensure that the transitions would be transparent to the provider community and be accomplished within a compressed timeframe. Traditionally, this had been a responsibility of the carrier community.

The current DOS-based PC claim submission software, which supports HPBSS carriers and is maintained by EDS on behalf of CMS, is limited in its ability to support the current claim collection environment. Such limitations include limited programming memory and limited Medicare secondary payer line-level information collection.

A Windows version of the software, *Accelerate*, is available and will allow support of current claims collection requirements. This version will be distributed to carriers upon request.

This is notification to carriers using the HPBSS that CMS has made the following decisions:

- Effective immediately, EDS will no longer maintain the DOS version of *Accelerate*. EDS will continue support of the Windows version of the *Accelerate* software until the mandated implementation of the X12N 837 (version 4010), currently scheduled for October 16, 2002. EDS will not develop software for the X12N 837 (version 4010). Development, maintenance and distribution of the X12N 837 (version 4010) low-cost software will be the responsibility of the carriers as directed in PM B-01-06, dated February 6, 2001.
- HPBSS carriers are to convert those providers using the DOS-based PC software to the Windows version by October 16, 2001.

These changes will bring HPBSS carriers in line with other carrier operations.

The effective date is August 15, 2001.

The implementation date is October 16, 2001.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after October 16, 2002.

If you have any questions, contact Whitney Korangkool, 410-786-0551, wkorangkool@cms.hhs.gov or Joy Glass, 410-786-6125, jglass@cms.hhs.gov.