

Minutes of the
DESY Customer Meeting
held at CMS, April 22, 2003

Attendees:

Phone/Video: Debra Caldwell, Barbara Frank (ResDAC), Thomas Ng (Dallas OIG), Adrian Clift (Atlanta), Erin Fratangelo, David Phillips (NY OIG), John (Computer Operations Baltimore), Elizabeth Axelrod (Abt Associates, Inc.), Debbie Sartame (Administrators), Rick Andrews (CSC), Pretrinia Martin (OIG Boston), Helen (Boston), Tim Weed, Mike (GOA), Greg Levine, Cora Brunton, and Sandy Callard (University of Michigan), Cindy Myers (Denver Regional Office), Cid Fredico (San Francisco Audit), Larry La Voie (Kansas City Regional Office)

CMS: Jack Fletcher, Roseanne Dean, Cheryl Morris, Scott Horning, Will Kirby, Alberta Dwivedi, Patte Roschitz, George Wilson, William Buczko, Jatti Srinivasarao, Joyce Ashford, David Gibson, Kim Skellan, Richard Blank, Erin Michaels, John Bledsoe, Duane Hudson, Leo Porter, Becky Zeller, Gary Stubbs, Rosemary Thommen, Russell Hendel, Barbara Roth, Walt Dunick, Barbara Kunkel

VIPS: Karen Garrison, Don Flohr, Mike Friedmann, Cheryl Mitchell, and Michelle Berman

Opening Statement

Jack Fletcher, DESY Project Manager, opened the monthly meeting by welcoming everyone. Thanks to TMG for updating the email group to be better able to send invites and notices. Jack stated that he is using e-mail addresses provided by everyone in DESY for sending notices for the monthly meeting. Today's meeting will include a presentation on using DESY for NCH and SAF data. He plans on expanding this presentation to include more information. This meeting was recorded for note taking purposes.

Operations

* There have been approximately 350-400 requests in process at any point over the past several weeks. Decreased SAF requests but increased NCH requests significantly. The highlights of DESY's statistics on processing are:

- o 41 SAF requests completed, writing 99 million records last week
- o 30 NCH requests completed, writing 680+ million records last week
- o 490 requests in process.
- o 350-400 requests with 3 week turnaround for NCH requests for 1998 - 2002 data.

* The release for PAD (Privacy Accountability Database) is now in production making DESY HIPAA compliant. DESY is the first and only operational system at CMS that is recording and logging disclosures and sending data to outside users. This may actually be the only system in the Federal Government that can make this claim. Users should not notice any impact to processing turnaround for those requests that don't require disclosures. Those that do require privacy disclosures may notice at most a 1 day delay for the disclosures to be loaded in the PAD database.

* The next big thing coming for DESY is Release 4.2 scheduled for May 12, 2003. This is going to Validation today, April 22, 2003. Business partners will participate in validation testing. Files that will be available through DESY with this release will be MEDPAR, Denominator, Name & Address and Vital Stats. These files will be PAD accountable. DSAF will continue to have this access until some future date determined by the business owners. There will be a notice posted in DSAF regarding this information being available in DESY. Side note: GHP has been added back to DSAF. An error on trailers has been corrected. DSAF will not be modified for a policy change concerning SSN numbers being available. This will be included in MBD when GHP is available there.

Questions before the presentation:

Q: Will cross-reference files be available in DSAF?

A: Hican cross-referencing will be available in DESY with Rel 4.2. SSN cross-referencing and RRB conversion will be available in DSAF.

Q: Does GHP access give you monthly premiums?

A: What has been available through DSAF will continue.

Q: Will cross-reference finder file output be available through DESY?

A: Yes, with DESY Release 4.2 under Enrollment.

Presentation by Jack Fletcher

The remainder of the meeting was a presentation by Jack Fletcher on using DESY to access NCH and SAF data. Highlights of the presentation follow:

- * Understanding CMS data and its business rules will help in knowing how best to access the data.
- * Most of the data is Medicare data such as Beneficiary entitlement, enrollment, etc.
- * Many other types of information is housed at CMS but not available through DESY.
- * DESY is only an access tool and does not own the data.
- * Therefore the need to understand the data is critical. Not the physical aspects of this data. But when is it updated, what filters may have been applied to it.
- * NCH
 - o NCH contains 100% Medicare fee for service claims, all adjudicated claims by CWF including denials
 - o Data is updated on a monthly basis for 48 months starting at the beginning of the service year, example 2003 service data will be updated through December 2006
 - o Organized by State of residence with all claim types present
- * SAF
 - o Final Action claims with the final adjustment claim on the file, won't have the entire claim, no drop file, includes denials
 - o Data is updated quarterly for 18 months
 - o Organized by claim type
 - o 5% Beneficiary identification and all their claims are available for all claim types
 - o 100% files available for Intermediary Part A and Part B
 - o Special interest area files available based on fee schedule

- * DESY can apply the final action algorithm for NCH data and include drop file so you can see the entire claim. Available through DESY:
 - o Medicare NCH 1991 - 2002 national files
- * All states, State files, By Claim Type
- * NCH data takes longer to process
 - o Standard Analytical files 1991- 2002
 - * Inpatient 100%, 5%
 - * Skilled Nursing Facility 100%, 5%
 - * Home Health Agency 100%, 5%
 - * Hospice 100%, 5%
 - * Outpatient 100%, 5%
 - * Carrier 5%
 - * DMERC 5%
 - * DMEPOS Ric O Ric M 100% (fee schedule defined)
 - * Clinical Lab 100%

Questions

Q: DMEPOS Ric M request is 100%?

A: 100% of Ric M DMEPOS but not 100% of DMERC claims. This is comprised of the 4 carriers allowed to process outside the DMERC center.

Q: Are updates from March completed?

A: Available by Monday, April 28, 2003 for NCH and SAF.

Q: Could the Helpdesk turnaround be improved?

A: The best way to get a response is to use the comment feature in DESY that sends an e-mail to Jack and the DESY team. Can call or e-mail Jack Fletcher directly.

Q: What about Medicaid data?

A: NCH Medicaid data is not available in DESY but is planned for the next calendar year.

Q: Clarify the updates for data?

A: Legacy data goes into trickle files for previous years and is available. Current month update data is not available.

The next customer meeting will be May 27, 2003 at 11 am. and will cover the features of the next DESY release, Release 4.2.

Minutes of the EDES Status Meeting