

Minutes of the  
DESY Customer Meeting  
Held at CMS, November 30, 2004

Attendees: Phone/Video: University of Michigan, Brian Ritchie (Philadelphia RO), and Barbara Frank (RESDAC)

CMS: Barbara Roth, Walt Dunick, Roseanne Dean, Patte Roschitz, Lia Prella, David Gibson, Ray Semega, Jennifer Rickrode, Gary Stubbs, and Mike Thomas

VIPS: Don Flohr, Loreta Schickner, Cheryl Mitchell, and Chris Knott

#### Opening Statement

Barbara Roth ran the meeting and announced that she is the new GTL of DESY. She also apologized for the mix-up regarding last month's meeting regarding the inability to conference in and provided the following highlights:

#### Operations

- o Announced the successful implementation of DESY v5.1 Release and reviewed the key highlights:

- o Approval Process - Robyn Thomas's group performs approval for NCH Non-HICAN requests. Her staff may contact users before approving or denying a request.
- o Improvements of Extract process to increase efficiency.

- o Reviewed the current status of requests in the system. The NCH backlog of requests has been eliminated. We are experiencing some delays in NMUD processing due to NMUD LOADS.

- o As of 12/1/2004, 3480 tape will no longer be an option as DESY output media.

- o Explained the cost benefits of 3490 vs. 3480 tapes. Specifically, users are charged over \$50 for a 3480 tape. Data written to ten 3480 tapes fits on one 3490 tape.

- o Explained Final Action is not performed on the DESY file during post processing for an NCH request when "all objects" is chosen.

- o Jack Fletcher announced the organizational change for DESY. Barbara will serve as the new GTL for DESY reporting to Ray Semega. Jack and Ray are switching roles with Jack now overseeing NMUD, MSIS and the new drug claim database.

- o Barb discussed the process by which expiration dates are applied to DESY output files residing on tape. This date is based upon the expiration date of the DUA under which the request was submitted. If users need to extend the expiration date on tapes, please forward a request via email to [TAPELIB@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:TAPELIB@cms.hhs.gov).

#### Questions

Q: Is DESY reading the most current Denominator file?

A: DESY displays the update date for the file currently used as input to DESY. We have confirmed that DESY is reading the September 2004 file for Denominator,

which is the most current file.

Q: Are older years of NCH data being archived?

A: 1991 through 1994 NCH data will still be available through DESY for the foreseeable future.