

Minutes of the
DESY Customer Meeting
held at CMS, January 28, 2003

Attendees: Phone/Video: Sandy Callard (University of Michigan), Debra Caldwell (ResDAC), Barbara Frank (ResDAC), Cecilia Prella (Seattle Regional Office), Claudia Bullock (Kansas City Regional Office), Thomas Ng (Dallas OIG), David Phillips (Albany, NY OIG), Erin Fratangelo (Albany, NY OIG), Mike Thomas (Washington GAO), Barbara Lang (NY OIG)

CMS: Susan Hart, Helen Nolt, Suzanne Asplen, Nagarjuna Konduru, Jatti Srinivasa Rao, Gary Stubbs, Roseanne Dean, Linda Moscoe, George Wilson, Joe Brenner, Barbara Roth, Jack Fletcher

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

Opening Statement

Jack Fletcher opened the monthly meeting by welcoming everyone. He announced that the meeting would be recorded for note taking purposes. Jack's presentation today will be mostly visual. In the future, Jack will send out presentations in advance. You may have PowerPoint open on your PC and follow the presentation while on the audio conference. Send Jack an email at JFLETCHER@CMS.HHS.GOV if you would like a copy of the presentation. Today's presentation is about the usage of DESY Views.

* Jack reviewed the request status report. DESY is processing over one billion records of output with an average of five hundred requests at any given time. We are now down to two hundred requests at any given time. There is a two to three week turnaround time for 1998 through 2002 data. SAF files are usually quicker with the exception of Outpatient, DMERC, Clinical Lab and 5% Part B.

* Continuing to test NMUD performance. We have made progress but have not yet reached an acceptable performance level. In the meantime, we are staying with the tapes. DB2 version 7 is being installed at CMS and we expect some performance enhancement with the implementation. We will test the new version and completion may be another month away. We are working very closely with the DBA staff, the NMUD staff and the systems people to get testing done.

* Working on the next release which initially included the second release of NMUD. Based on current performance issues, it has been postponed. The remainder of the release continues and we look for a March release including an electronic interface for ReMAS, Medicare secondary payer, and modifications to accommodate the Privacy Accountability Database (PAD).

* News and Information email is sent out every time the page is updated. All monthly meetings are listed on the page.

* Jack's presentation: How to Use DESY Views. Talking points included:
o How to Create a View. Jack walked through the steps to create a View.
o Understanding what a DESY View is. The View uses NCH format data. . It contains the base information about the beneficiary and about the claim. This is a mirror of the NMUD database. It is written out as a fixed record. The trailer is written out as a separate record. The data is fully ASCII ready.
o How to use the View appropriately. The best choice if you only need a limited number of fields for your output or if you want to load the output into a database.
o 50 bytes that were added to DESY output and how that can be used to your advantage: Full record NCH format has fifty bytes at the front of the record.

On a View it is at the end of the base record. It contains a field that you can provide us. The other field is the DESY sort key. We will copy up to thirty bytes of your User specified finder file. This is available when using a HICAN finder file only.

o The Sort key is the grouper for all the claims of the beneficiary. This value will remain the same even when the beneficiary id changes. It cannot be used in a finder file search.

Questions

* George asked if we would update the Welcome screen with the agency's current name? Yes, in the next release.

* Can you have multiple finder files? Not at this time.

Send any questions to Jack or use the DESY Comments feature. Information concerning the next release will be addressed at the next monthly meeting. Minutes of the EDES Status Meeting August 21, 2001