10 Principles that Guide the Exception Process

As noted in 45 CFR §162.940, a submitter must demonstrate that the proposed exception would:

1. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the health care system by leading to cost reductions for, or improvements in benefits from, electronic health care transactions;

2. Meet the needs of the health data standards user community, particularly health care providers, health plans, and health care clearinghouses;

3. Be uniform and consistent with the other standards adopted under this part and, as appropriate, with other private and public sector health data standards;

4. Have low additional development and implementation costs relative to the benefits of using the standard;

5. Be supported by an ANSI-accredited SSO or other private or public organization that would maintain the standard over time;

6. Have timely development, testing, implementation, and updating procedures to achieve administrative simplification benefits faster;

7. Be technologically independent of the computer platforms and transmission protocols used in electronic health transactions, unless they are explicitly part of the standard;

8. Be precise, unambiguous, and as simple as possible;

9. Result in minimum data collection and paperwork burdens on users; and

10. Incorporate flexibility to adapt more easily to changes in the health care infrastructure (such as new services, organizations, and provider types) and information technology.

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