

**National Standards Group: Press Release (CMS-0053-F)**

**Date as of March 20, 2026**

## **HHS Finalizes Groundbreaking Rule to Modernize Health Care: Standardized Electronic Health Care Claims Attachments Will Save Industry \$781 Million Annually**

### **Historic move eliminates paperwork burden, empowers providers, and accelerates patient care**

In a major win for health care providers, health plans, and patients nationwide, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on behalf of the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today announced the finalization of a transformative rule that will revolutionize how health care information is exchanged across America.

The "Administrative Simplification; Adoption of Standards for Health Care Claims Attachments Transactions and Electronic Signatures (CMS-0053-F)" final rule marks a historic achievement in exchange of patient-specific clinical information to support an administrative health care transaction, thus ushering in a new era of efficiency and connectivity in health care.

### **A Game-Changer for Health Care Efficiency**

Say goodbye to fax machines and mountains of paperwork! This innovative rule is projected to save the health care industry an impressive \$781.98 million annually by streamlining electronic data exchange and eliminating time-consuming manual processes.

"This marks a critical step in modernizing health care administrative processes," said CMS Administrator **Dr. Mehmet Oz**. "By standardizing electronic health care claims attachments and enabling the use of secure electronic signatures, we're removing unnecessary hurdles, giving providers more time to care for their patients, and paving the way for a more connected and efficient health care system."

### **What's New and Exciting:**

- **Dual Standards Approach:** Adopts both X12 standards (for administrative transactions) and Health Level 7 (HL7) standards (for clinical data) to create seamless, automated workflows
- **Secure Electronic Signatures:** Implements verified electronic signature requirements for safe, efficient exchanges
- **Standardized Clinical Coding:** Includes LOINC (Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes) for consistent identification of clinical results
- **More Time for Patient Care:** Reduces administrative burden so providers can focus on what matters most—their patients

### **Developed with You in Mind**

This rule was crafted in close collaboration with industry stakeholders, incorporating extensive feedback to ensure practical, effective implementation. The compliance timeline provides ample opportunities for health care organizations to adapt their systems and prepare for this exciting transition.

### **Join Us to Learn More**

HHS plans to host a series of informational webinars regarding this final rule. For more information on the final rule and upcoming informational webinars, please visit:

 **View the final rule in the Federal Register:** <https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2026-05676>

 **Access the Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions:** [Events and Latest News Page](#)

 **Register for upcoming webinars:** [Sign up here!](#)

This rule fulfills requirements under the Administrative Simplification subtitle of HIPAA and the Affordable Care Act, demonstrating HHS's commitment to building a smarter, more efficient health care system for all Americans.

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