Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Review Pilots Round 1 Test Case FAQ's

1. When should my state run the test cases?

CMS encourages states to start running the test cases as soon as possible since it will be a manual process for most states. States should not wait for the expected outcomes before running the test cases.

2. Is the test case data reliable and accurate?

Yes, CMS has confirmed that there are no inaccuracies in the test data. The test case with a child in Medicare is correct. CMS also confirmed there are no pregnant males in the test case data which states raised as a concern. If your state believes you have discovered a data issue with a particular test case please email fy2014-2016EligibilityPilots@cms.hhs.gov and include the test case application ID.

3. Will CMS be providing the expected test case outcomes?

Yes, CMS will be issuing the expected test case outcomes to states this summer.

4. Does the state have to verify the test case results?

The states will need to verify test case results upon receipt of test case outcomes.

5. Are states expected to report the Round 1 test case results along with the Round 1 Medicaid and CHIP eligibility pilot results on June 30, 2014?

No. Due to delays in issuing test case guidance and expected outcomes CMS is pushing back the due date for Round 1 test case reporting. To give states enough time to verify results and report corrective actions after expected outcomes are released, Round 1 test case results will be due October 31, 2014.

The test case component of the pilots will remain independent of the review of sampled eligibility determinations performed as part of the Medicaid and CHIP eligibility review pilots. The two components will have separate guidance and remain on a separate timeline.

6. Should the test cases be run in the live environment or in the UAT environment?

Test Cases should always be run in the UAT environment to avoid risking any impact on the live system.

7. Who is responsible for entering the test cases?

The state may designate the staff responsible for entering the test case; however the state must ensure the independence is maintained. States typically use testers or USI vendors.

8. Are states required to use an IV&V vendor to certify the test results? What if there is no IV&V vendor available?

State should use an IV&V vendor if possible. However if an IV&V is not available, states may use an independent entity such as a non-subordinate sister agency or similar alternative to demonstrate that the QC reviews of these test cases were completed by a separate department than that which usually handles eligibility operations. States have experience using IV&V vendors or other agencies for systems testing and should follow the same guidelines that were used for testing with the data services hub.

9. Is there specific information that should be included in the IV&V certification (e.g. "The test was conducted and the results were an accurate representation of the test.")?

The letter should include several sections addressing the following: Introduction, Background, Testing Approach, Scenario's and Test Cases and actual test results. Test Case Numbers used for each scenario and results of the test should also be included. If there are any errors, the letter should state the recommended corrective action.

10. Will CMS provide a template for specific information that must be included in the IV & V certification statement?

IV&V vendors should follow a similar format used for the data services hub testing attestation letters that were done during systems development/testing. CMS will provide an IV&V certification template that states can use as an example.

11. CMS requires that 10 test cases be used for each measure however not all scenarios have 10 test cases available. How should we handle testing for these particular scenarios?

If there are not 10 test cases for a particular scenario, the state should use all of what is available.

12. Do all states have to test PERM Scenario #2 (Individual eligible for the adult group)?

No, this is not applicable to states that have not expanded their Medicaid program to include the new adult group.

13. Do all states have to test PERM Scenario #4 (Eligible Inmate)?

All states must test a scenario for an eligible inmate. It is not necessary that the inmate be eligible in the new adult group. The inmate could be eligible in any group.

14. Will the test cases be loaded into the UAT environment in the hub so that when performing matching they can find the people? What are the expectations during testing for the hub calls? Will there be coordination with the hub for the test cases provided?

There will be no interaction with the data services hub while processing the PERM test cases. States should assume that all verifications have been done on all information provided in the test cases. States do not need to verify information on the data services hub and should skip that part of the process.

15. How detailed should states be when putting the test cases through the system? For example, do we have to enter the email address?

If certain fields are not required for your system to be able to determine eligibility then states don't have to include them.

16. Can states change some test case information, such as date of birth, if necessary to pass system edits?

No. Test data must be consistent in order for state results to be compared to CMS expected results.

17. Can CMS put the test cases in a similar format to the FFM testing so states don't have to manually enter every case?

CMS is unable to provide test case data in a different format due to resource constraints.

18. Will CMS require additional verifications, data, or screen shots from the test environment after the submission of test case results, if so how long are states required to retain this information?

CMS will not require additional verifications, data, or screen shots from the test environment after the submission of results. However, if a state's results are different from those CMS provided, a state may submit additional information to explain the difference.

19. If a test case and/or test scenario matches CMS's expected outcome, will the state be required to re-test that test case and/or scenario in the Round 2 pilot? Or will only the test cases that

fail to match the expected outcome need to be run to verify that the corrective actions implemented were effective?

Forthcoming Round 2 test case guidance will specify which test cases states should run in Round 2.

CMS anticipates requiring states to rerun any test cases for which discrepancies were identified in Round 1 to evaluate the effectiveness of corrective actions. In addition, states should also expect to retest test cases if there were changes to states' eligibility policies that necessitated a change in the MAGI business rules and/or if the state transitioned since Round 1 from a manual or mitigation approach to calculating MAGI to an automated process to ensure that the new automated rules engine is producing accurate results. States should not proceed with Round 2 test cases until official guidance is issued from CMS.

20. Are states required to report corrective actions for the test cases?

Yes, states are required to report corrective actions. The corrective actions for the test cases should be reported on the Medicaid and CHIP Pilot Test Case Data Reporting Template in the column, "If discrepancy caused errors in determination, explain state's next steps to verify effected applicants' eligibility".

21. Can the test case reporting results be uploaded on to PETT?

No, the test case results cannot be reported on PETT at this time. Please submit the test case results on the completed Test Case Data Reporting Template along with a formal letter of submission of test results and certification of the results to the Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Pilot mailbox: FY2014-2016EligibilityPilots@cms.hhs.gov.

22. My state has to manually enter the test cases. What are the steps to enter the test cases into the non-production environment?

This will vary from state to state. Each state should consult with its own technical teams and contractors.

23. When will states receive guidance/instructions for the test case data reporting template?

This information will be forthcoming with the expected test case results.