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HIPAA Eligibility Transaction System (HETS) Data Issues

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1 OPEN DATA ISSUES

Table 1 identifies currently open HETS 270/271 data issues.

Table 1: Open HETS Data Issues

Current Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Release or Date that a Fix is Planned	Detailed Description of the Issue
None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

2 RESOLVED DATA ISSUES

Table 2 identifies resolved HETS 270/271 data issues.

Table 2: Resolved HETS Data Issues

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
HETS was not returning Medicare Advantage (MA) plan coverage for selected MA plans.	1%	November 2017	March 2018	In particular circumstances, HETS was not returning MA coverage and plan information for Medicare Beneficiaries that had active MA coverage. This was limited to MA plans where there was no Plan Benefit Package (PBP) number on file in the MA plan database.
CMS identified a more accurate source of data for End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Dialysis Start Date and ESRD Dialysis End Date.	1%	August 2019	August 2019	HETS returns ESRD information on the 271 response when Service Type Code 'CQ' or 'RN' are included in the 270 request. CMS identified a previous issue with the data source used for the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Dialysis Start Date and ESRD Dialysis End Date. CMS corrected this issue by utilizing an improved ESRD data source. The X12 format of the 271 response was unchanged.
HETS was returning incorrect Hospice episode information or occurrence counts when the Medicare Beneficiary had a new Notice of Election (NOE) and had billed Hospice episodes four or more years ago.	1%	Prior to March 2019	Implemented 11/4/2019	HETS' data source for Hospice information is the Common Working File (CWF). CMS identified an issue where CWF was sending incorrect Hospice information to other systems (including HETS) when the Medicare Beneficiary had a new Notice of Election (NOE) and previously billed hospice periods. CWF updates the file and corrects the Hospice history once a Hospice claim is processed for the new billing period. CWF updated their database and processes to resolve these discrepancies and prevent future occurrences. The HETS 271 response was also modified to return all historic Hospice episodes instead of an occurrence count.

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
<p>Medicare Secondary Payer data was not returning all enrollment periods and plan information for select beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>October 7, 2019</p>	<p>November 18, 2019</p>	<p>HETS Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) records were not current for a limited number of beneficiaries. The Common Working File (CWF), HETS' MSP information source, implemented system changes October 7, 2019. The CWF changes inadvertently resulted in sharing beneficiary MSP updates or new occurrences with HETS only when there is claims activity. The CWF MSP data was accurate, but HETS was not. If a beneficiary's MSP information changed after October 7, 2019, and there had been no CWF claims activity for that beneficiary, HETS MSP data was not current. While there was no impact to claims processing, if Providers submitted a claim to Medicare as primary payer based on HETS inaccurate MSP data and Medicare is not the primary payer, Medicare would deny the claim because Providers must bill the primary payer. However, that claim action would also update HETS MSP data to reflect another payer as primary. CMS corrected this issue November 18, 2019.</p>
<p>HETS historical Hospice episode information was limited to 49 months of historical data.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>November 2, 2019</p>	<p>November 18, 2019</p>	<p>The HETS 271 response was modified in November 2019 to return all historical Hospice information regardless of whether the requested Date(s) of Service intersected with the Hospice episode. After this change, HETS was initially not returning any Hospice episodes older than 49 months.</p>

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
<p>The next eligible date (PROF/ TECH) for HCPCS G0297 (Low dose CT scan [LDCT] for lung cancer screening) was not displaying/ returning correctly by CWF (impacting HIMR, ELGA, and HETS) when the Beneficiary's Part B Effective Date was after the Effective Date (02/05/2015) of the G0297 HCPCS code.</p>	<p>Approx. 100 Beneficiaries</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>December 9, 2019</p>	<p>Code changes were made by CWF to correct Professional and Technical next eligible dates when the Beneficiary's Part B Effective Date was after the Effective Date (02/05/2015) of the 'G0297' HCPCS code. These changes were effective on December 9, 2019.</p>
<p>A very small number of Medicare Beneficiary Hospice period records do not contain a valid rendering facility NPI number.</p>	<p><1%</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>February 17, 2019</p>	<p>A very small number of Medicare Beneficiary Hospice period CWF records do not contain a valid rendering facility NPI number. CWF is the source of Hospice data for HETS. HETS previously returned an error for these Medicare Beneficiaries if the Hospice Service Type Code was present on the 270. For these specific Medicare Beneficiaries only, CMS modified the HETS 271 response and now returns Hospice history without a rendering NPI for any episodes that contained an invalid rendering facility NPI. HETS continues to return the rendering NPI as part of the Hospice history for the vast majority of Medicare Beneficiaries.</p>

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
<p>In specific situations where a Medicare Beneficiary transferred between different Hospice providers, the HETS 271 response is returning duplicate Hospice episodes with different revocation codes.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>November 2019</p>	<p>March 13, 2020</p>	<p>In very specific situations (where the Hospice provider posted a revocation and new election when the receiving Hospice should have just submitted a transfer notice instead), the HETS 271 response is returning duplicate Hospice episodes for the same period with different revocation codes. The Hospice episodes dates and NPI used in the duplicative periods are in fact correct just duplicated. The duplicate periods were removed.</p>
<p>After the Medicare Beneficiary received the first Pneumococcal Vaccine (PPV), CWF was not sending the eligibility information for the second PPV vaccine to HETS.</p>	<p>33%</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>June 13, 2020</p>	<p>HETS' data source for prior PPV usage is the Common Working File (CWF). HETS returns PPV vaccination data using CWF records for HCPCS 90670 and 90732.</p> <p>Prior to this fix, HETS was correctly returning the PPV vaccination next eligible dates for both HCPCS if the Medicare Beneficiary has never been vaccinated. However, if the HETS 271 returned no next eligible date available for PPV, the Medicare Beneficiary may have actually only received one of the PPV vaccines and may have still be eligible for the second vaccine after a year between deliveries. This situation was resolved upstream. CMS encourages Providers to discuss the Pneumococcal vaccine and any previous receipt of that vaccine with your patients.</p>

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
<p>HETS was not returning End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) period information for Medicare Beneficiaries if the period's Transplant Rejection Date or Dialysis End Date occurred greater than 4 years in the past.</p>	<p><1%</p>	<p>August 2020</p>	<p>October 10, 2020</p>	<p>HETS returns ESRD information on the 271 response when Service Type Code 'CQ' or 'RN' are included in the 270 request. When requested, HETS should return all ESRD episodes that overlap with the requested Date(s) of Service. HETS was omitting ESRD episodes if that period's Transplant Rejection Date and/or Dialysis End Date occurred greater than 4 years in the past. HETS was updated to include all components of the ESRD period that did occur within the last 4 years.</p>
<p>HETS was not returning an MSG segment with the Home Health Patient Status Code on the 271 response for any episodes where the Medicare Beneficiary has an invalid Patient Status Code of '00'.</p>	<p><1%</p>	<p>June 2020</p>	<p>October 10, 2020</p>	<p>The HETS 271 response was modified in June 2020 to return the Home Health Patient Status Code as an MSG segment if Service Type Code 42 was sent on the 270 request and the Medicare Beneficiary had a Home Health Patient Status Code on file. HETS was returning this information properly except for the cases where upstream systems have an invalid Patient Status Code of '00' on file for historical data. This issue was resolved.</p>

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
<p>HETS was not returning the 271 2110C HSD loop (which contains Hospice Days Used) if the Medicare Beneficiary had zero (0) Hospice Days used reflected on the Beneficiary record.</p>	<p><1%</p>	<p>October 10, 2020</p>	<p>October 23, 2020</p>	<p>The HETS R2020Q300 release enhanced the HETS 271 response to return Hospice DOEBA-DOLBA and Hospice Days Used if Service Type Code '45' was submitted on the 270, the Beneficiary had Medicare Part A eligibility and the Medicare Beneficiary has prior Hospice usage within the last four years. This enhancement was activated October 10, 2020. Following that release, however, the HETS 271 response was not returning the 2110C HSD loop with Hospice Days Used if the Medicare Beneficiary had no prior Hospice Days Used on their record. The Hospice DOEBA-DOLBA may have been returned if the prior Hospice episode occurred within the last four years. HETS was updated to return the appropriate 271 2110C HSD loop in all appropriate circumstances.</p>
<p>HETS was not returning Pneumococcal Pneumonia Vaccination (PPV) occurrences that occurred prior to 2018.</p>	<p><1%</p>	<p>April 2020</p>	<p>October 30, 2020</p>	<p>When PPV HCPCS 90670 and/or 90732 are submitted on the 270 eligibility request, HETS returns up to 10 episodes of prior service history for each PPV code. However, upstream systems were not providing Pneumococcal Pneumonia Vaccination (PPV) occurrences that occurred prior to 2018. The upstream systems were updated to return up to 10 episodes for each code as intended.</p>
<p>HETS was not returning historical Pneumococcal Pneumonia Vaccination (PPV) usage when a Medicare Beneficiary only had active Medicare Part A entitlement.</p>	<p><1%</p>	<p>October 30, 2020</p>	<p>November 20, 2020</p>	<p>HETS was only returning historical Pneumococcal Pneumonia Vaccination (PPV) occurrences on the 271 eligibility response for Medicare Beneficiaries with active Medicare Part B entitlement. HETS was modified to return historical PPV usage for all active Medicare Beneficiaries.</p>

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
HETS was not returning complete Hospice episode information for select beneficiaries.	<1%	~10/4/2021	First week of March, 2022	HETS Hospice records were incomplete for a limited number of beneficiaries. The Common Working File (CWF), HETS' information source for Hospice information, experienced an issue between October 4-13, 2021. Any Hospice record updates that were processed in CWF during these dates were not passed down to HETS, and therefore HETS did not return any information contained within those updates. CWF performed maintenance that corrected the issue.
HETS' eligibility response was not returning prior usage for HCPCS code 71271 (Lung Cancer Screening) for a subset of Medicare Beneficiaries.	25%	July 2021	Sept 2022	HETS supports preventative service HCPCS code 71271 for "Computed tomography, thorax, low dose for lung cancer screening, without contrast material(s)". HETS' eligibility response was not returning prior usage for HCPCS 71271 for a subset of Medicare Beneficiaries. Upstream systems were updated to resolve this issue and ensure that prior usage for HCPCS 71271 was returned for all appropriate Medicare Beneficiaries.
The HETS 271 response included Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) enrollments that were previously terminated.	<1%	September 2022	November 4, 2022	The HETS 271 response included select Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP). HETS was updated to remove any terminated MSP enrollments prior to returning that data in the HETS 271 response.
HETS Benefit Utilization data issue	4.5%	October 2022	January 24, 2023	CMS identified a data issue with the Beneficiary Benefit Utilization data from the data source (CWF); this impacted prior Benefit Utilization data only.

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Resolved Data Issues	Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries	Date the Issue Started	Date the Issue was Resolved	Detailed Description of the Issue
<p>The HETS 271 response for End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) includes the ESRD Clinical Dialysis Start and/or End Dates. CMS planned to update the HETS 271 response with the ESRD Dialysis Start and/or End Dates.</p>	<p>15%</p>	<p>March 2019</p>	<p>Verified that HETS was correctly returning ESRD Dialysis dates in April 2023</p>	<p>After additional discussions with upstream data systems, it was determined that the problem was an issue in CWF and HETS is correctly returning the Clinical Dialysis date. CWF will update its data.</p>

APPENDIX A - REVISION HISTORY

Table 3 provides a summary of changes made to this document.

Table 3: Document Revision History

Version	Date	Description of Changes
1-30	04/05/2023	Moved ESRD Dialysis Start Date issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-29	02/16/2023	Added new ESRD Dialysis Start Date issue to open (Table 1)
1-28	01/24/2023	Moved Benefit Utilization issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-27	01/23/2023	Updated 'Approximate Number of Impacted Medicare Beneficiaries' from 1% to 4.5% for Benefit Utilization issue (Table 1)
1-26	01/19/2023	Added new Benefit Utilization issue to open (Table 1)
1-25	11/17/2022	Moved Terminated MSP issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-24	10/31/2022	Moved Lung Cancer Screening issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2). Added new Terminated MSP issue to open (Table 1)
1-23	07/05/2022	Updated Lung Cancer Screening issue entry (Table 1)
1-22	03/31/2022	Added new Lung Cancer Screening issue to open (Table 1)
1-21	03/07/2022	Moved Hospice issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-20	02/18/2022	Added new Hospice issue to open (Table 1)
1-19	11/24/2020	Moved PPV Part A issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-18	11/3/2020	Moved PPV Occurrences issues from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2). Added new PPV Part A issue to open (Table 1). Added new Hospice HSD Days Used issue to Resolved (Table 2)
1-17	10/15/2020	Moved ESRD Episode – 4 years issue and Home Health Patient Status issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-16	10/02/2020	Updated open PPV Occurrences issue (Table 1) estimated fix date to July 2021. Also updated this item to note that it may occur on PPV Occurrences prior to 2018
1-15	09/24/2020	Added new ESRD Episode – 4 years issue to open (Table 1)
1-14	08/12/2020	Updated open Home Health Patient Status code issue estimated fix date to October 2020. Added PPV Occurrences issue to open (Table 1)
1-13	06/16/2020	Moved duplicate Hospice & PPV issues to resolved (Table 2). Added Home Health Patient Status code issue to open (Table 1)
1-12	02/24/2020	Moved Hospice rendering NPI issue to resolved (Table 2)
1-11	02/12/2020	Added Hospice rendering NPI issue to open (Table 1)
1-10	01/06/2020	Added HCPCS G0297 next eligible dates to resolved (Table 2)
1-9	11/26/2019	Moved Hospice 49-month issue to resolved (Table 2)
1-8	11/19/2019	Added two new Hospice issues to open (Table 1). Moved MSP issue to resolved (Table 2)
1-7	11/8/2019	Updated MSP Issue in open (Table 1)

CMS HETS DATA ISSUES

Version	Date	Description of Changes
1-6	11/5/2019	Added new MSP Issue to open (Table 1)
1-5	11/04/2019	Moved Hospice issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-4	08/07/2019	Moved ESRD issue from open (Table 1) to resolved (Table 2)
1-3	07/24/2019	Revised estimated date to resolve PPV issue in Table 1. Target adjusted to Q2 2020
1-2	07/03/2019	Added 1 new item (ESRD) to Table 1
1-1	05/23/2019	Added 2 new items (Hospice, PPV) to Table 1
1-0	12/20/2018	Initial version