

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



**CENTER FOR MEDICARE  
MEDICARE PLAN PAYMENT GROUP**

---

DATE: May 04, 2018

TO: All Medicare Advantage Organizations, PACE Organizations, Medicare-Medicaid Plans, Section 1833 Cost Contractors and Section 1876 Cost Contractors, and Demonstrations

FROM: Jennifer Harlow, Deputy Director /s/  
Medicare Plan Payment Group

SUBJECT: CMS' Encounter Data Processing System (EDPS) Infrastructure Transition-UPDATE

As indicated in the May 1, 2018 HPMS memo, "CMS' Encounter Data Processing System (EDPS) Infrastructure Transition," infrastructure changes are being made to maintain and improve CMS' Encounter Data Processing System (EDPS). We anticipate the infrastructure transition to begin at 12:00 AM, EDT on Saturday, May 19, 2018, and run for approximately 3 weeks, based on the historical volume of encounter data submissions. For all encounter data received by 11:59 PM, EDT on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, plans will receive MAO-001 and MAO-002 reports. During the transition period, CMS's Encounter Data Front End System (EDFES) will continue to accept and process submitted encounter data and transmit TA1, 277CA and 999 reports to submitters. However, the back end (EDPS) will hold the encounter data files in a pending status. As a result, encounter data transaction reports generated by the EDPS (MAO-001 and MAO-002) will not be produced until after the transition period has come to a close. CMS will notify plans when the EDPS resumes sending the MAO-001 and MAO-002 reports.

We also note that the MAO-004 report will not be produced in June 2018 (for data submitted in May 2018). We will wait until we can produce a full May 2018 MAO-004 report, rather than send a partial report. Once all May submissions are processed by the EDPS, CMS will create the May 2018 MAO-004 report. We will provide additional information in June, once EDPS processing resumes.

Below are some Frequently Asked Questions related to the EDPS infrastructure transition:

*What is happening and why?*

CMS is making infrastructure changes to the EDPS to maintain and improve the system.

*When will the EDPS infrastructure transition start?*

CMS expects the infrastructure transition to begin at 12:00 AM, EDT on Saturday, May 19, 2018.

*Will encounter data submitted at 11:59 PM, EDT on Friday, May 18, 2018 be processed before the transition occurs?*

Yes, for all encounter data received through 11:59 PM, EDT on Friday May 18<sup>th</sup>, plans will receive MAO-001 and MAO-002 reports.

*How long will it take to transition the EDPS infrastructure?*

Based on historical submission volume, we anticipate the EDPS infrastructure transition to take about 3 weeks. We will inform plans once we resume sending MAO-001 and MAO-002 reports.

*What do encounter data submitters need to do during the EDPS infrastructure transition?*

Encounter data submitters should continue to submit encounter data as they do currently, and do not need to take any additional action.

*Will the Encounter Data Front End System (EDFES) still process encounter data submitted during the transition period?*

Yes, the EDFES will continue to accept and process submitted encounter data.

*What encounter data reports will the plan NOT receive during the EDPS infrastructure transition?*

MAO-001 and MAO-002 reports will not be transmitted to MAOs for any encounter data submitted after 11:59 PM, EDT on May 18, 2018, until we resume processing the pending encounter data.

The April MAO-004 report will be sent in May 2018. However, we will not send a partial May 2018 MAO-004 report in June 2018, but will wait until we can process all May 2018 submissions. We will provide further information on the timing of the May and June MAO-004 reports in June.

*What encounter data reports will the plans receive during the EDPS infrastructure transition?*

The Encounter Data Front End System (EDFES) will continue to process submitted encounter data and transmit TA1, 277CA and 999 reports.

*When will the plans start receiving the reports for the data that will be held in pending status?*

After the transition ends, CMS will begin processing all pending data that was submitted, and all newly submitted data. CMS will begin sending the reports to submitters in the order the encounter data was received once the transition is complete. We will notify plans in June when we resume sending the transaction reports (MAO-001 and MAO-002) and of the expected timeline for the May and June MAO-004 reports.

*Will the EDPS infrastructure transition have any impact on the Risk Adjustment Processing System (RAPS) processing of risk adjustment data?*

No, risk adjustment data that is submitted to RAPS will not be impacted by this infrastructure transition.

*Will the EDPS infrastructure transition impact any data submission deadlines?*

We do not anticipate changes in risk adjustment submission deadlines.

If you have any questions that are not addressed above, please email [encounterdata@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:encounterdata@cms.hhs.gov), with the subject: “CMS’ Encounter Data Processing System (EDPS) Infrastructure Transition- UPDATE”.