

What's New and interesting in the HIPAA world?

This section of our website is intended to inform you of the current happenings in the HIPAA world.

Information obtained from these sites is not necessarily the views of Michigan Department of Community Health. This site is updated weekly

July 1, 2003 update: View CMS updates for July at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/providerupdate/>

June 13, 2003: Are you testing? Only four months remain until October 16, 2003! Will you be ready?

CMS is here to help answer your questions. Check out our website for more information at www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/hipaa2. Or, call us toll-free at 866-282-0659.

Update May 15 2003:

- **CMS Sponsors Free HIPAA Workshops for Small Providers**

Workshops will focus on implementing the critical electronic transactions and code set requirements.

Checklists, how to's, and a special segment on security are included as well. The Office for Civil Rights has also been invited to speak on privacy issues. Reservations are on a first-come first-served basis, however they are required as space is limited.

Preference will be given to those providers located in the geographic area of a workshop. For more information e-mail mjohnson3@cms.hhs.gov and put "WORKSHOP" in the subject heading.

- Princeton, NJ - May 22, 2003 - Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village Hotel
- Charleston, WV - May 29, 2003 - Charleston Civic Center
- Tacoma, WA - June 5 - Tacoma Landmark Convention Center
- June 2003 - Las Vegas, NV - Specific date and location to be determined
- June 2003 - Syracuse, NY - Specific date and location to be determined

To Register - E-mail hipaamail@titan.com or fax 410-944-3868 to reserve your spot. Please include your name, e-mail address if applicable, company name, title, address, and the workshop location of your choice

Update March 11, 2003:

The March 10 issue of the Federal Register contains a correction notice for the Modifications to Transactions and Code Sets regulation published on February 20. The notice fixes some significant errors in the February 20 publication.

The notice can be seen at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/pdf/C3-3876.pdf>

Please make sure to copy the entire link and paste it into your browser.

The correct version of the rule (in Word format) is still available at the CMS website (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/regulations/hipaa/cms0003-5/0003ofr2-10.pdf>).

******* *Stanley Nachimson from CMS has announced that The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will be convening four National Conferences on the HIPAA Privacy Rule. These one-day conferences will be held in San Diego, Atlanta, New York, and Chicago.*

Update Feb 20 2003:

******* *Two HIPAA final regulations, those for Security Standards, and for Modifications to the Transactions Standards, went on display today at the Office of the Federal Register. They will be published in the February 20 edition of the Federal Register.*

REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

CMS-0003-F/CMS-0005-F, entitled "Health Insurance Reform: Modifications to Electronic Data Transaction Standards and Code Sets," was published. This regulation affects All Providers.

CMS-0049-F, entitled "Health Insurance Reform: Security Standards," was published. This regulation affects All Providers.

These are the versions that were sent to the Office of the Federal Register. The Federal Register versions will be made available, via

links, from this same web site. Copies of the rules can be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/hipaa2/default.asp>

Under the security standards announced today, health insurers, certain health care providers and health care clearinghouses must establish procedures and mechanisms to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic protected health information. The rule requires covered entities to implement administrative, physical and technical safeguards to protect electronic protected health information in their care. The security standards work in concert with the final privacy standards adopted by HHS last year and scheduled to take effect for most covered entities on April 14. The two sets of standards use many of the same terms and definitions in order to make it easier for covered entities to comply.

Covered entities (except small health plans) must comply with the security standards by April 21, 2005. Small health plans have an additional year to comply.

Addenda to the Implementation Guide:

The final transaction modifications rule, which will also be published in the Federal Register on Feb. 20, combines two proposed rules published May 31, 2002. HHS worked extensively with the Designated Standards Maintenance Organizations (DSMOs) to revise the proposed changes to the standards, as required by Congress as part of HIPAA.

You can also check the new regulations at <http://cms.hhs.gov/providerupdate/whatsnew.asp>

Major provisions of the final rule include:

- Repealing the National Drug Code (NDC) as the standard medical data code set for reporting drugs and biologics in all non-retail pharmacy transactions.
- Adopting the proposed Addenda to the implementation guides with some technical revisions based upon comments received and consultation with the DSMOs.
- For retail pharmacy transactions:
 - Adopting the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Batch Version 1.1 to support the Telecommunications Version 5.1.
 - Adopting the Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) X12N 835 as the standard for payment and remittance advice and the NCPDP Telecommunications Version 5.1 and NCPDP Batch Version 1.1. Implementation Guides as the standard for the referral certification and authorization transaction.
- Continuing the use of the NDC code set for the reporting of drugs and biologics.
- The rule also adopts modified standards for two transactions that were not included in the proposed rules -- premium payments, and coordination of benefits. The modifications were approved by the DSMOs and merely provide explanatory guidance.

CMS to Enforce HIPAA TCS Standards:

HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson announced today that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will be responsible for enforcing the HIPAA transaction and code set standards. The HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) will enforce the HIPAA privacy standards. CMS and OCR will work together on outreach and enforcement and on issues that touch on the responsibilities of both organizations - such as application of security standards or exception determinations. Ruben J. King-Shaw Jr., CMS deputy administrator and chief operating officer, said CMS will create a new office to bring together its responsibilities under HIPAA, including enforcement. Read more: <http://www.hipaadvisory.com/news/2002/1015cms.htm>

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare Learning Network

- Medicare health care professionals established a website in response to the increased usage of the Internet as a learning resource. For information on HIPAA satellite broadcasts see <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/broadcst.asp>
- CMS HIPAA Administrative Simplification hotline 410-786-4232
- AskHipaa@cms.hhs.gov mailbox for Administrative Simplification questions
- To sign up for the CMS HIPAA-Registry listserv, the site is: <mailto:listserv@list.nih.gov>
- Recent CMS Press Releases at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/media/press/current_pr.asp

United Government Services (UGS):

- Latest documents relating to Medicare HIPAA can be viewed at this site
<http://www.hcfa.gov/medicare/edi/hipaadoc.htm>
<http://www.ugsmedicare.com>

EDI Related information:

- EDI has excellent information regarding ANSI 835, ANSI 837, and UB-92 regarding Medicare in their Frequently Asked Questions <http://www.hcfa.gov/medicare/edi/edifaq.htm>
- Get the HIPAA Implementation guides from http://hipaa.wpc-edi.com/HIPAA_40.asp

- **Draft Implementation guide for 004500 is available for review at *****
<http://www.wpc-edi.com/healthcare.asp> The public review period will commence at 6:00 P.M. EST on December 6, 2002 and will close at 6:00 P.M. EST on January 5, 2003.

Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI):

Visit the <http://www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/index%7E0.htm> the official site for WEDI to get detailed information regarding the most current events sponsored by the WEDI/SNIP workgroup and for other related activities such as the WEDI Workshops for HIPAA Transactions and Code sets.

- Register today for the Third Annual WEDI SNIP HIPAA Implementation Summit: Achieving 2003 Compliance. Join WEDI SNIP in Chicago, March 3-5, to hear and participate in discussions on the latest HIPAA implementation issues and implementation strategies. The Third National WEDI SNIP HIPAA Implementation Summit: Achieving 2003 compliance, will include multiple tracks, allowing the conference attendee to tailor his/her conference experience. Tracks include: Health Plan Perspective, Vendor Perspective, Provider Perspective, and Other Integral HIPAA Implementation Issues. Sessions will be highly interactive, allowing the attendees to further customize their conference experience. It is suggested that several members of your organization attend the event, so your company can take full advantage of the conference's diverse and compelling topics. The conference will kick off with two pre-conference events: The WEDI Direct Data Entry (DDE) PAG, and a HIPAA 101 Workshop. These events will begin the morning of March 3. Attendees can register for either of these events using the attached registration form.
- The Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP) has recommended transaction testing prior to "going live" with standard format transactions. To download a copy of the WEDI/SNIP Testing and Certification White Paper go to: <http://snip.wedi.org/public/articles/testing030901.pdf>
- Sign-up for the WEDI_SNIP Listserv at <http://snip.wedi.org/listserv/> and join active HIPAA discussion groups.
- HIPAA Resources provides information about HIPAA compliant transactions, privacy and security laws, pharmacy and vendor solutions. <http://www.wedi.org/public/articles/index%7E2.htm>

ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF A HIPAA EDI PRACTICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (PMS) DIRECTORY

This unique noncommercial and web-based Directory of HIPAA-readiness information from practice management systems vendors will assist medical practices in their efforts to comply with the HIPAA standard for electronic transactions and code sets. Software vendors of PMS and billing systems are invited to immediately join the Directory created by a coalition of medical specialty societies - including the American Academy of Family Physicians AAFP, the American Academy of Pediatrics AAP, the American Osteopathic Association AOA, the Medical Group Management Association MGMA, and others (see list) - who are being assisted in the Directory's maintenance by WEDI, AFEHCT, and NCHICA. The Directory's purpose is to greatly simplify the process for medical practices of becoming educated about and planning for HIPAA TCS compliance. The number one goal of the Directory is to avoid major disruptions in electronic claims submission and payment come October 16, 2003. The HIPAA EDI PMS Directory is located at www.hipaa.org/pmsdirectory. Practice management companies are invited to create a password-protected listing of their company's HIPAA information and to update this information on a regular basis.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM):

HIPAA law requires changes at BCBSM that will impact Providers, Clearinghouses and software vendors. This section provides important information to help you prepare for these changes. BCBSM is offering Billing seminars for Michigan throughout the month of August.

- Visit the following site frequently for up to date information
<http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/hipaacentral.shtml>

BCBSM will begin the transition to standard medical codes and modifiers required by HIPAA in August 2002.

- Medical code and modifier changes Charts are available at the following site:
<http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/codechanges.shtml>

BCBSM is offering HIPAA transaction testing for its vendors and trading partners. In order to use this tool, you must be registered and have received your login ID and password from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Visit www.bcbsm.com/providers/trans_test.shtml for detail information.

BCBSM has contracted with EDI to provide services for customers to submit electronic media claims. Visit www.bcbsm.com/providers/submit/edi/index.shtml for more information.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan has all of their Companion Documents on their web site at http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/submit/edi/pp_emcm.shtml and are available for public review.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan also offers a link on their website called HIPAA Hot Spots, which is designed to give you short summaries of the most current and critical data related to HIPAA compliance. http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/hot_spots.shtml

Frequently asked questions concerning BCBSM and BCN's plan to improve operational effectiveness while meeting HIPAA requirements <http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/faqs.shtml>

Links to all States HIPAA websites:

Have you been looking at what other state's HIPAA web sites Here is a link to Ohio's web page that link to all other States HIPAA sites <http://www.state.oh.us/hipaa/statesites.htm>

Contact information fo the HIPAA leads in all states can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/hipaa/adminsim/>

Click on State Medicaid HIPAA Coordinators