

VA Recovery Audit - Contract Implementation Conference Call Summary

Date: 2/26/2001

Time: 1:00 – 2:30 PM (EST)

Attendees *Veteran Affairs*

James Davis, Contracting Officer, HAC

Thomas Wayburn, COTR, VA Recovery Audit, HAC

George Gray, Director, VA Medical Center, Little Rock, AR

Jenie Perry, Chief Health Information Systems, Austin Automation Center (AAC)

Tony Byrum, Programmer, HAC

Tony Guagliardo, Program Specialist, VACO/HAS

Contractor

Walter Jordan, Principal, Abacus Technology

Frank Kelly, Director, Business Development, Foundation

Joy Wilkie, Director, Managed Care Services, Foundation

Padra Randall, DRG Quality Coordinator, Foundation

Sharon Lopez, Manager, DRG Recoupment, Foundation

Julie Susman, President, CEO, Jefferson Consulting Group

Minh Tompkins, Manager Government Contract Administration,. Foundation

Conference Call Summary

1. Attendee Identification: Participants identified themselves.
2. Review of action items (COTR):
 - a) Item 1: VA Directive - The draft Directive has been completed and submitted into the VA concurrence process. The process and procedures for disclosing VA supporting documentation upon Contractor request was incorporated into the Directive. Tony Guagliardo will be issuing an advance copy to all VA networks and facilities. Tom Wayburn forwarded a copy of the draft directive to Joy Wilkie.
(Closed - 02/26/01)
 - b) Item 2: Provider Contracts - VA/HAS reported previously that the payments made in association with a provider contract was disclosed to the Contractor with the vendor data information, as there is a field in the vendor file associated with provider contracts. Jenie Perry stated that the only contracts flagged within the vendor data was contract nursing home identification. The Contractor requested a copy of all VA facility contracts that altered VA payment (making it different than the pricer amount) to a provider for inpatient services. Contractor had previous discussion with VA/HAS (Kent Simonis) indicating that VA/HAS would provide the copies as there were a small number of these contracts. Tony Guagliardo stated that VA/HAS did not have a copy of all the local facility contracts but that he would FedEx to Joy Wilkie the

available documents at VA/HAS. Tony indicated that it would be a facility responsibility to provide to the Contractor, upon request and on an individual basis, a copy of any contract/agreement with the provider for an identified claim in payment variance with the pricer amount. **(OPEN: ECD 03/01/01)**

- c) **Item 3:** VAMC POC list - A complete listing of Network and facility points of contacts was provided to Joy Wilkie by Tom Wayburn on 2/21/01. The facility listing contained a POC for 138 stations. Contractor was previously advised that there would be a designated POC for 172 stations. The Contractor will generally be contacting the designated Network POC for information and assistance. If the Contractor needs to contact a facility POC, the Contractor will contact the designated Network POC for those stations without a designated POC on the facility listing. The Contractor will contact the COTR for assistance if necessary. (Closed 02/21/01)
- d) **Item 4:** Collection Process Change - Agreement was previously reached on the proposed collection process: Initial letter issued (day zero); follow-up letter issued on day 30; VA offset initiated on day 60; Treasury offset initiated on day 180. The single remaining issue of disposition status following Treasury offset was deferred for discussion between Bill Magro and Ralph Charlip. Bill will contact Ralph. **(OPEN: ECD 02/28/01)**
- e) **Item 5:** Invoicing and Payment Processing - Ryan Lilly developed an Access table that will be used to disseminate financial information. The proposal is to publish the table on the Internet site (password protected). Contractor had previously expressed concern about not having access to all of the data to complete the table data fields (beneficiary address, vendor tax identification number, etc. Ryan Lilly is developing a list of those fields the Contractor is responsible for completing. The discussion was deferred pending Ryan's availability. **(OPEN: ECD 02/28/01)**
- f) **Item 6:** Medical Record Requests - The process for requesting and disclosing supporting documentation was included into the VA draft directive. A copy of the directive and proposed process was given to the Contractor on 2/26/01. VA/HAS will issue a copy of the advance directive to VA Networks and facilities. The draft directive is in the VA concurrence process. (Closed 02/26/01)
- g) **Item 7:** Operation and Policy Manuals (HAC) - A copy of the HAC operation and policy manual was FedEx to Joy Wilkie on 2/21/01. The updated HAC DRTG policy was e-mailed to Joy on 2/21/01. (Closed 02/21/01)
- h) **Item 8:** HAC Data Availability - The data transfer for testing is pending acceptance by the Contractor (Dick Pectol). Dick will contact HAC programmer, Tony Byrum at 303-331-7529 to schedule data transfer. **(OPEN: ECD 02/28/01)**
- i) **Item 9:** FSC waiver letter - VA/HAC submitted a waiver request to FSC on January 29th requesting special authority to permit HAC to input offsets similar to FSC data entry offset policy and procedures. Issue was deferred pending availability of Ryan Lilly. **(OPEN: ECD 2/28/01)**

- j) Item 10: The need for a site visit to Foundation was questioned by on-line RASC members, as there may be other avenues available to monitor the performance of the contract. If a visit is determined necessary, it was suggested that it be delayed further into the contract schedule, possibly in late May/early June. Discussion will be referred to RASC. Pending determination (**OPEN: ECD 3/15/01**)

3. New Business:

- a) The FEE and NVH data files were provided to the Contractor on CD-ROM disks. Following preliminary review, some clarification is needed between VA and Contractor regarding the availability of selected elements in the FEE and NVH data provided by AAC. The data elements sought are: veteran date of birth, claim disposition type and claim outlier information. AAC (Jenie Perry) has been coordinating the sharing of automated data files with the contractor (Dick Pectol/Mary Ann). Following discussion it was determined that there may be a communication issue between the parties. It was suggested that the Contractor personnel (Dick/Mary-Ann/Joy) and the AAC personnel (Jenie/Richard) discuss the data elements provided, their file location and cross-reference procedure. Walt Jordan will coordinate. (**OPEN: ECD 2/28/01**)
- b) Contractor reviewed a copy of the PR document developed by VA and issued to all VA facilities. Julie Susman noted that the document contained a misleading statement in the section titled "Background". The statement made is that the Public Law included other federal agencies in its scope, when only VA is referenced in the actual language of PL 106-74, and the reason given for the proposed post-payment audit is that private institutions sometimes overbill the government. Julie commented, without objection, that the Contractor will correct these statements when they issue a public notice regarding the contract.

4. Next Call: The next call will be March 5, 2001. The call-in telephone number is xxx-xxx-xxxx and meeting ID is xxxx.

Tom Wayburn
COTR, Recorder