

VA Recovery Audit - Contract Implementation Conference Call Summary

Date: 8/6/2001
Time: 1:00 – 2:30 PM (EST)

Attendees *Veteran Affairs*

Thomas Wayburn, COTR, VA Recovery Audit, HAC
Brendan McNamara, Programmer, HAC
Ryan Lilly, Chief Financial Officer, HAC

Contractor

Walt Jordan, Principal, Abacus Technology
John Pieters, Program Manager, Health Net
Joy Wilkie, Director, Managed Care Services, Health Net
Padra Randall, DRG Quality Coordinator, Health Net
Sharon Lopez, DRG Manager, Health Net
Kelly Foydl, Reports Analyst, Health Net

Conference Call Summary

1. Attendee Identification: Participants identified themselves. Previous minutes were accepted as written.
2. Review of action items:
 - a) Item 1: Fiscal Year Case Review
 1. John Pieters reported that Health Net had received the Fiscal Year Case Review data file from AAC for FEE cases with a FY 2000 date of service that were paid FY 2001 TD. Tom Wayburn reported that the corresponding HAC data file was being created.
(OPEN)
 - b) Item 2: Import data from Contractor to HAC/Collectible case referral.
 1. The import data fields format was discussed. It was agreed to continue testing of this electronic data exchange. Kelly Foydl is the contact source at Health Net.
(OPEN)
3. New Business:
 1. John Pieters stated that a temporary problem developed just minutes before the scheduled call and that some participants would be unable to connect to the call. An alternative teleconferencing system was arranged. It was too late to notify all participants.
 2. Tom Wayburn reported that he had received the initial audit results for the

duplicate payments review. The question arose pertaining to VA being exclusionary payer under the FEE program when VA authorizes care and payment. There is conflicting information in the FEE Basis Guidebook versus Code of Federal Regulations. Some sharing of FEE payments with other health insurance (OHI) carriers has been identified. The discussion centered upon the following issue: To whom should the duplicate payment be refunded when the sharing involves another federal agency, such as Medicare. Tom Wayburn advised that if both VA and Medicare paid for the same episode of care under the FEE program, the identified duplicate payment should be returned to Medicare as VA is the primary payer to Medicare under the FEE program. Tom Wayburn will confirm VHA policy regarding FEE sharing of payments with OHI for authorized hospital care. (OPEN)

3. Joy Wilkie requested an update on the case examples provided to Tom Wayburn concerning VA FEE DRG reassignment upon payment data entry. Tom Wayburn reported that he had referred the case examples to VACO/HAS and the issue was being investigated. (OPEN)
4. Padra Randall reported that some VA stations are not submitting the requested information pertaining to payment scenario for requested case reviews. Following discussion, it was determined that there is some confusion at the station level as to what is meant by "payment scenario". This term was borrowed from the FEE Basis Guidebook and the data being requested is the same as that listed in Chapter 20, Section 10 and 11. Tom Wayburn will send a message to the VISN Network Coordinators clarifying that the information requested as "payment scenario" means the documentation showing the payment methodology used to calculate the FEE payment amount, such as per diem partial payments.
5. Sharon Lopez reported that some VA stations have stated that they are unable to provide supporting medical and payment documentation for requested FEE cases with dates of service during Fiscal Years 1995 through 1997. It is being cited by VA station personnel that VA policy is to discard that FEE documentation after two to three years. Tom Wayburn will ask VACO/HAS to clarify the disposition authority for record destruction. (OPEN)
6. Joy Wilkie asked if there was a time limitation on entering data into the NVH file. It is being noticed that there is no corresponding episode of care in the NVH file compared to the FEE file for some cases. This finding will probably increase the number of record requests to the stations. Tom Wayburn will ask VACO/HAS and AAC to provide analysis. (OPEN)

3. Next Call: Monday, August 20, 2001

Tom Wayburn
COTR, Recorder