

# VA Recovery Audit - Contract Implementation Conference Call Summary

Date: 4/1/2002

Time: 1:00 – 2:30 PM (EST)

## Attendees **Veteran Affairs**

Thomas Wayburn, COTR, VA Recovery Audit, HAC  
Jenie Perry, Chief Healthcare Information Systems, AAC  
Ryan Lilly, Chief Fiscal Officer, HAC  
Elliott Vanderstek, Chief Accounting Officer, HAC  
Joe Enderle, HAS Fee Council, OPC Columbus  
Robert Zier, Accounting, HAC

## **Contractor**

Richard Pectol, Vice President, Abacus Technology  
Sharon Lopez, DRG Manager, HealthNet  
Padra Randall, DRG Quality Coordinator, HealthNet  
Kelly Foydl, Reports Specialist, Health Net

## **Conference Call Summary**

1. Attendee Identification: Participants identified themselves.
2. Review of action items:
  - a) Item 1: No Payments Indicated for VAMC Houston  
The manual data count for Houston reported approximately 600 cases. The data file from AAC contained 21 cases. HAS is continuing to investigate this discrepancy. A status update was unavailable. (OPEN)
  - b) Item 2: Response to White Paper on VA DRG Pricer Calculation  
The DRG Pricer Issue was scheduled for return from OGC on March 26<sup>th</sup> but has not yet been received. Tom Wayburn will check its status. (OPEN)
  - c) Item 3: Clarification of Method Used to Verify Non-VA PPS Exempt Status  
A source was provided but not yet contacted by Tom Wayburn. (OPEN)
  - d) Item 4: Treasury Offset Program  
Tom Wayburn reported that field guidance regarding offset procedures was being issued by CFO and that following release of the guidance memorandum the offset process would begin. The memorandum is expected to be issued this week and HAC intends to transmit 12 offset requests this Friday. HealthNet data base shows that the number ready for offset referral should be over 100 cases. HealthNet and HAC will reconcile listings. (OPEN)
  - e) Item 5: Fee Basis Guidebook, Chapter 20, Section XI, Scenario 10  
Tom Wayburn reported that last week the ACO issued the contract modification to Abacus Technology that noted all of the changes to be made to Chapter 20 of the Fee Basis Guidebook. This contract modification corrects

all errors identified in that Chapter. Contractor advised that the modification had not been received. Tom Wayburn will check with ACO for status. (OPEN)

3. New Business:

Item 1: Future Teleconference Call Schedule

All parties agreed that the contract had progressed to the point that conference calls were no longer necessary every other week. The teleconferences will be held monthly on the second Monday of the month beginning on May 13, 2002. (CLOSED)

Item 2: Allocation Report

It was reported that both HealthNet and Abacus are having difficulty reading the weekly HAC allocation report. The problem was identified as a format issue. HealthNet requested that the file be sent as a delimited text file. HAC imports the information from the payment data file. HAC will attempt to send the file as an excel document which should be easily read by all concerned. HAC will send the file weekly. (OPEN)

Item 3: Re-pricing Claims from UB-92 Forms for Outpatient Reimbursement  
HealthNet reported that they are having difficulty in obtaining outpatient re-pricing information from VA stations when the bills in question was submitted by the provider using a UB-92 form with ICD coding. The bills were paid as inpatient when the episodes of care were actually outpatient surgery, outpatient observation, etc. VA should have processed the bills as outpatient claims. VA requires ICD codes when paying bills for inpatient services. VA requires CPT codes to calculate outpatient reimbursement amounts. Because VA paid the bills as inpatient claims VA did not request the CPT codes. Thus, VA does not have the necessary coding information to re-price the bill and the Non-VA provider is unwilling to re-code the bill. Consequently, HealthNet is unable to obtain the correct VA payment amount to confirm the amount of any overpayment. As a possible solution HealthNet suggested that the entire payment amount be recovered and the Non-VA facility be advised to re-bill if VA payment is desired. Upon re-billing VA would require the proper CPT codes to pay the claim appropriately. Tom Wayburn stated that the issue will be referred to the RASC. (OPEN)

Item 4: CHAMPVA Disposition Codes

HealthNet advised that the disposition codes in the CHAMPVA data base do not match the disposition codes listed on the UB-92 billing form. It appears that CHAMPVA maintains its own disposition code values and changes the codes on the bill to these values. Specifically, UB-92 disposition codes 6, 7 and 8 are changed. HealthNet requested the policy and procedure for these disposition code changes as they affect how payment should be calculated. (OPEN)

4. Next Call: April 15, 2002.

Tom Wayburn  
COTR, Recorder

