

# National Provider Identifier: Implementation Issues

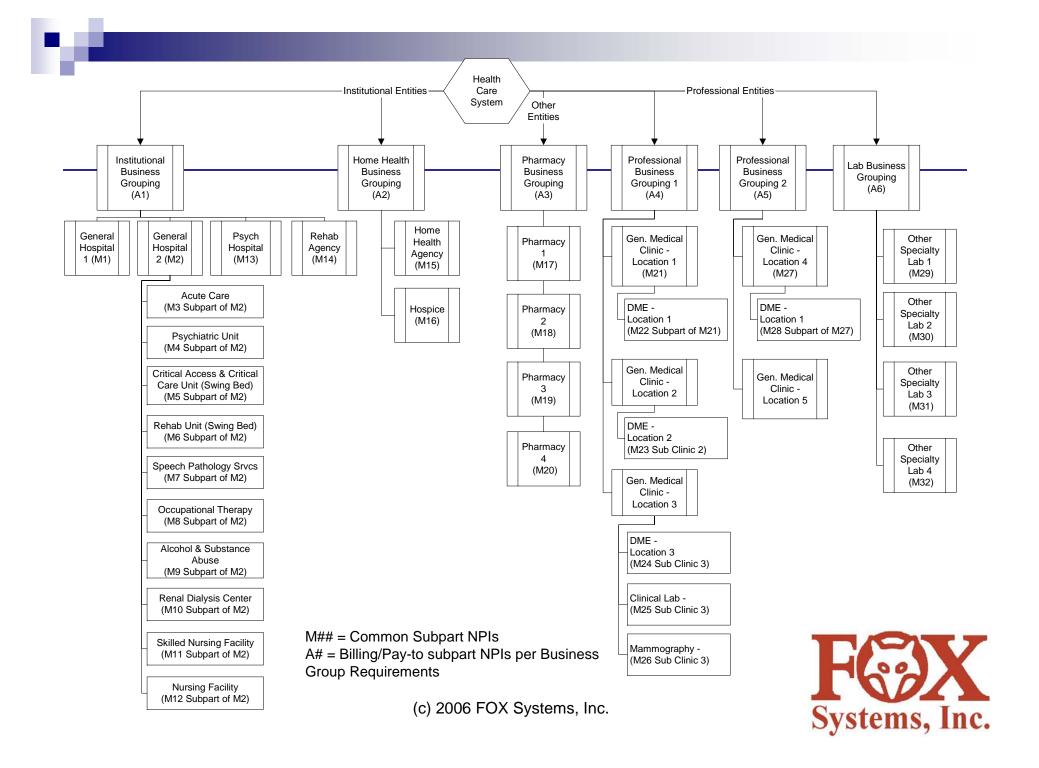
Presented by Andrea S. Danes September 25, 2006



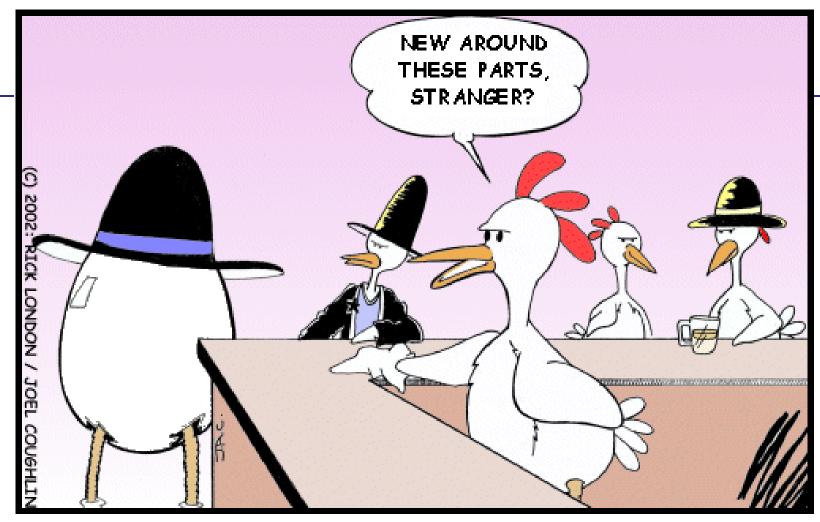
# **Communications Considerations**

- Companion Guide changes
  - New data needs
  - Expedite distribution (provider vendors)
- Disparate ideas about NPI enumeration schema
  - Payer v. payer
  - □ Payer v. provider
  - □ Clearinghouse v. payer(s)
- Trading partners
  - Enumeration status
  - Current identification schema
- Implementation schedules
  - Migration
  - Testing









# AND YET THE QUESTION REMAINED: "WHO CAME FIRST?"





### NPI Collection and Validation

- All trading partners
  - Payers
  - Providers
  - Clearinghouses
  - Other intermediaries
- Select method and validate information
  - Re-enrollment
  - Hard copy of notification
  - Disparate methods by payer
- Out of network providers





VS.







# Provider Network Implications

- Provider network management
  - Contracting
  - Credentialing
  - Enrollment
- Revenue cycle management
  - □ Continuity = timing
  - □ Consistency = rates
- Identification methodology
  - New data fields
  - Fraud and abuse detection





# System Issues

- Identify all legacy identifier logic
  - Applications
  - Hard coded
  - Database attributes
- Modify to accommodate NPI field size and format
- Create cross-references between legacy provider numbers and NPI's, using available data
- Conversion of internal systems
  - Translator/Mapping logic
  - Administrative transaction receipt/creation
  - Claims history for reporting, budgeting
  - □ Clearinghouse interface(s) changes





### Additional Considerations

- Management
  - Inability to forecast future needs because of interruption in historical data
- Revenue cycle
  - Inability to coordinate benefits because the provider cannot be recognized by the health plans (significant problem with subparts)
- Provider identification
  - Fraud and abuse detection
  - Gathering data to supplement NPIs may be difficult or resource intensive
  - Distribution of NPI information is resource intensive



# **Enumeration and NPPES**

- Enumerator
  - □ Provide application assistance
  - □ Process paper applications
  - □ Error resolution
- National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)
  - Uniquely identify provider
  - Edit and validate data
  - □ Assign NPI
  - □ Assign National Plan Identifier (future)





# The NPPES System

- Enumerates
- Validates only
  - □ SSN
  - □ Address
- Does not validate other identifiers and health plan affiliations (as indicated by payer-specific IDs and other legacy provider identifiers)
- Does not disseminate NPI data to anyone other than the applying provider





### NPPES Interaction

- Bulk Enumeration (EFI)
  - Beta testing began early February
  - □ Live with EFIO's early 2006
  - NCPDP is most active and vocal
- Data Dissemination
  - □ Dissemination notice Still unavailable
  - Unknowns
    - Who?
    - What?
    - How?





# Paper Forms

- Revised 1500 (NUCC)
  - □ 10/01/06: Payers able to accept (CMS delay 01/01/07)
  - 02/01/07: New version only
- UB04 (NUBC)
  - □ 03/01/07: Payers able to accept
  - □ 05/23/07: New version only
- Dental
  - Standard ADA form in revision (ECD 10/06)
  - No dual use strategy on current form
- Pharmacy
  - Standard NCPDP Universal Claim Form (UCF)
  - No dual use strategy (electronic or paper)





# Medicare Implementation Schedule

- January 3, 2006 -October 1, 2006
  - Providers may send NPI (optional) with Medicare number (Required)
  - CMS will return submitted identifiers on
    - Outbound claims
    - Claim status response
    - Eligibility benefit response
- October 2, 2006 May 22, 2007
  - Providers may send NPI and/or Medicare number
  - No Medicare number may result in non-payment
  - CMS will return submitted identifiers on electronic remittance advice
- May 23, 2007 Forward
  - Providers must send NPI only
  - Small health plans have an additional year to comply





### How will we do business?

- What are our communication needs?
- How have our providers redefined themselves?
- Can we guide our providers enumeration schema?
- How will we link NPI and legacy information across systems?
- Will we have to complete a partial or full reenrollment(s)?
- What are the contracting implications?
- Do we have a comprehensive transition plan for administrative transactions?



## Were we successful?

- Project budget and schedule
- Strength of network
- Receipt and distribution of NPI information
- Payment management
- Internal processes
- Vendor performance
- Smooth transition

Are we ready for the next health information technology mandate...?





"So I'm on page 4,987 of the HIPAA regulations when, suddenly, it occurs to me, prison would seem like a vacation!"

Fox Systems, Inc.



# **Contact Information**

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# Thank you!

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