

# The Twenty-First National HIPAA Summit

## Welcome and Introductions



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Health IT Certification



- Business process consultant focusing on electronic health records, and electronic transactions between organizations
- Former positions with MGMA, University of Denver, Dartmouth College
- Active leader in the Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI)
- Speaker and author (two books on HIPAA Security and one on electronic health records)
- Recipient of Vision and Leadership Award as WEDI Chairman, WEDI Corporate Leadership Award, and WEDI Distinguished Service Awards
- Consultant to CAQH CORE Project
- HIPAA Expert Witness
- Consultant to three successful EHNAC applicants

*Strategies for workflow, productivity, quality and patient satisfaction improvement through health care information*

- **Strategic IT business process planning**
- **ROI/Benefits realization**
- **Project management and oversight**
- **Workflow redesign**
- **Education and training**
- **Vendor selection and enhanced use of vendor products**
- **Facilitate collaborations among organizations to share/exchange health care information**
- **EHR and HIE training and facilitation**
- **Medical Banking**
- **EHNAC Support**

# Background and Perspective

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- Several health care IT related initiatives are happening over the next four years.
- These initiatives are related.
- There are both cost savings and compliance reasons for the industry to support these changes.
- **There are six active final rules with compliance deadlines in place for transactions and code sets!**

# Current HIPAA, ARRA, and ACA “IT” Initiatives

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- Meaningful Use incentive payments to providers utilizing Certified EHRs to qualify for Medicare and/or Medicaid incentive payments in stages during 2011-2015.
- 1. Implement and utilize eligibility and benefits, and claims status, the first set of CAQH CORE Operating Rules by January 1, 2013

# Current HIPAA, ARRA, and ACA “IT” Initiatives

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- 2. Implement a new HIPAA standard for ERA and EFT (Stage 1) by January 1, 2014 (effective January 10, 2012)
- 3. Implement and utilize CAQH CORE EFT/ERA operating rules by January 1, 2014 (effective August 10, 2012)
- 4. Providers must comply with the NPI implementation specifications for non-covered providers who are prescribers by May 6, 2013

# Current HIPAA, ARRA, and ACA “IT” Initiatives

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- 5. Implement and utilize the HPID and OEID by November 5, 2014 (effective November 5, 2012 )
- Small health plans have until November 5, 2015 for HPID
- 6. Complete implementation and use of ICD-10 on October 1, 2014 (effective November 5, 2012)

# The Clock is Ticking

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- Less than 11 months left until Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) operating rules required (January 1, 2014)
- Health plans must certify for the first two sets of operating rules and standards (December 31, 2013)
- CMS 90-day period of enforcement discretion for compliance with eligibility and claim status operating rules expires on March 31, 2013



# Challenges

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- Health care industry has historically substantially underfunded its investment in IT (hardware, software, human resources, and workflow improvement)
- The health care industry views the initiatives as separate undertakings for the purposes of either complying with federal regulation or seeking an incentive payment, not as an opportunity to improve efficiency, workflow, or lower cost
- Providers and their vendors are focused on Meaningful Use, not transactions and code sets

# Challenges

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- The US health care industry (medical) is still burdened with legacy systems, a flat file approach to standard transactions, and a goal of minimizing investment cost rather than trying to maximize savings
- The concept of operating rules that will improve efficiency and interoperability is not well understood by many who are familiar with the “culture” of the HIPAA SDO standards and associated processes to develop them, but this is changing

# Challenges

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- Developing effective operating rules takes time, requires leadership and thinking “outside the box”, research to determine the underlying causes of the inefficiencies and barriers to change, and a willingness to investigate feasible options to overcome the barriers and achieve interoperability and efficiency gains throughout the Health Care industry. The participants have to be open to disclosing the barriers and accepting reasonable compromises to achieve the overall goal.

# The Strategy for Developing Effective Operating Rules

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- CAQH CORE has demonstrated its ability to develop and implement operating rules on a voluntary basis for eligibility, claims status inquiry, electronic funds transfer, electronic remittance advice, and an infrastructure supporting interoperability.

# Bending the Medicare Cost Curve and Lowering Rate of Increase of Health Care Costs in the United States

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- Rapid action essential – every month of delay adds significantly to the Medicare deficit, delays the economic recovery in the United States, and delays the US improving its position in a global economy.
- Time is money!



# Today's HIPAA Summit Program on Transactions and Code Sets

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- Designed to present the current status of progress toward meeting the regulatory requirements and achieving efficiencies
- Develop an understanding of operating rules and what it takes to be successful in implementing them.
- Understand the role of financial institutions in health care interoperable data exchange.

# Today's HIPAA Summit Program on Transactions and Code Sets

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- Understand that these major initiatives are all related and can not be efficiently addressed by approaching them one at a time in sequence.
- Understand the differences between compliance requirements and voluntary recommendations for the operating rules, e.g., acknowledgements

# Today's Speakers

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- Denise Buenning, Acting Deputy Director, Office of E-health Standards and Services
- Gwendolyn Lohse, Managing Director, CAQH CORE
- Timothy Kaja, Senior Vice President, UnitedHealth Group
- Robert Tennant, Senior Policy Advisor, Medical Group Management Association
- Thomas Richey, Senior Product Manager, Testing Solutions, Edifecs
- Steven S. Lazarus, President, Boundary Information Group

# Contact Slide

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