Transactions Testing SWG

Transaction Compliance Certification White Paper

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Business Drivers

◆ The healthcare industry lacks guidelines

– That outline the <u>steps</u> required to conduct transaction testing and validation of HIPAA compliance.

Business Drivers

- A certification process is needed
  - To provide a structure of <u>consistency</u> across the industry
  - That assures transactions are fully tested and meet HIPAA compliance

Business Drivers

- To meet the HIPAA Implementation timelines the industry needs to:
    - Reduce the <u>time</u> and <u>cost</u> required to perform transaction compliance testing
    - Establish an accepted method to validate transaction processing between trading partner organizations

Business Drivers

- To meet the HIPAA Implementation timelines the industry needs to:
  - Assure that an organization is <u>sending</u> and <u>processing</u> compliant transactions as required by HIPAA Implementation Guidelines

Payer Transaction Testing

- Diverse testing methodologies.
  - Cloned production systems
  - Drop them from electronic to paper, review the data visually.
- New submitter testing.
- Blanket approval.
- Specialty testing.

Levels of testing

- Level 1 - Integrity testing
- Level 2 - Requirement testing
- Level 3 - Balancing testing
- Level 4 - Situation testing
- Level 5 - Code set testing
- Level 6 - Product types/types of service testing

Trading Partner Cooperation

◆ All trading partners should test their transactions at levels 1 and 2 as a minimum before attempting to exchange data with another trading partner

Trading Partner Cooperation

◆ The testing service should certify the compliance with the HIPAA requirements by issuing a certificate of compliance that specifies the different levels of testing passed.

Trading Partner Cooperation

- The receiving trading partners should accept transactions from a submitter that has been certified to comply with levels 1 through 6 without requiring any further testing.

- Acceptance of transactions from submitters not certified to comply with some of the test levels is subject to further testing by the receiving trading partner.

Other Issues Required for Industry Acceptance

- ◆ Clearinghouses should document in house testing and provide to trading partners or certification authorities on request.

- ◆ Patient Identifiable Information should be encrypted or eliminated from tests submitted to the certification testing systems.

Other Issues Required for Industry Acceptance

◆ Finally... trading partners should evaluate at least one HIPAA transaction compliance certification system, and if the certification is adequate, should accept the certified trading partners without further testing.

Questions...

- ◆ Who will certify the certifier???
- ◆ How will payers, providers, and clearinghouses choose the right Certification System?

Value in Accepting

◆ By following these recommendations and becoming certified the testing timeframes with Business Associates will undoubtedly be drastically reduced. And thereby meet the implementation of the HIPAA standard transactions, in a timely fashion and at a much lower cost.

Sample Certification Systems

- ◆ Claredi - Certification service
- ◆ EHNAC STFCS - Certification service
- ◆ Foresight Previsto - Certification service

Want to help?

- ◆ Testing@wedi.org