

Advanced Issues in Transactions, Data Code Sets and Identifiers: Testing and Certification

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Case Study of Clearinghouses

- **Clearinghouse Readiness**
- **Clearinghouse Testing and Certification**
- **Payer Readiness**
- **Payer Testing and Certification Issues**
- **HIPAA Successful Factors**

Clearinghouse Readiness

- **Not accommodating all transactions today**
- **Transactions most commonly accommodated:**
 - **Claims**
 - **Remits**
 - **Eligibility**
 - **Claim Status**
 - **Some Referral certification and authorization**
- **Clearinghouses appear ahead of the implementation curve**
 - **NDC codes**
 - **Addenda items**
- **Data content still needed**
- **Verification vs. Validation**

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MCKESSON

Empowering Healthcare

Clearinghouse Testing and Certification

- **Most using at least one testing or certification service**
- **Testing with basic transactions**
 - **50-100 files for Institutional and Professional claims**
 - **10-20 files for remittances**
 - **20 for eligibility**
- **Third party testing by payer trading partners is most often not required**

Payer Readiness

- **Over 1000 payer trading partners: only 30 in testing process**
- **Payers, in general, appear to be using a phase-in approach**
 - **Stage 1 – Incorporate new translator and transactions into existing process**
 - **Stage 2 – Implement pseudo-compliant X12**
 - **Stage 3 – Implement HIPAA compliant X12**
- **Many payers using a third party testing or certification service for their own internal use**

Testing and Certification Issues

- **Internal tests run through testing services to assist in problem finding and correction prior to payer testing.**
- **Tests sent through two similar testing services resulted in the same exact errors. No point in using both.**
- **Trading partners use the testing service to resolve interpretation issues.**

Testing and Certification Issues

Is there value in testing?

- **Varying companion guides**
- **Differences in batching, looping, interchanges**
- **Differences in interpretation of fields**
- **Restrictions on delimiters**
- **Restrictions on field sizes**
- **Using “not used” fields still**
- **Adding values to IG internal code lists**

HIPAA Successful Factors

Factors leading to successful HIPAA compliance:

- **Consistent interpretation in the Implementation Guides critical**
- **Buy-in of the payers to the value of the testing and certification services needed**
- **Stage 3 testing of fully compliant transactions must be done immediately**

Questions

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