WEDi ™

Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange

TCS Hearing

- WEDI sponsored January 27, 2004

- Assess Implementation Status

- Determine Impact of Data Content Issues

- Evaluate Implementation Sequencing

TCS Hearing - Findings

- Trading Partner Compliance

- Regulatory Issues

- Communications Issues

- Data Content Issues

- Cost and Benefit Issues

TCS Hearing – Findings

- ## Trading Partner Compliance

  - Trading partner dependency critical path
  - Complexity of multiple testing partners
  - Software vendors not prepared
  - Addenda delayed testing
  - Test data issues
  - Lack of coordination
  - Medicare Cross-over

- Regulatory Issues

  - Complexity of transition

  - Impact of Addenda and ASCA

  - Interpretation of technical requirement

  - Standards development process

  - System vendor compliance

TCS Hearing – Findings

- Regulatory Issues (continued)

  - Code set concerns

  - Trading partner agreements

  - Acknowledge and error reporting

  - Contingency plan impact

  - Complaint process

TCS Hearing – Findings

- Communication Issues

  – Poor communication between covered entities

  – Need for authoritative source if information

  – Instruction in the Implementation Guides

  – Communication limitations as a barrier to testing

TCS Hearing – Findings

- ## Data Content Issues

    – Incomplete data content

    – Difficulty in collecting data

    – Necessity of data content

    – Data Standards Maintenance Organization

    – Lack of unique identifiers

TCS Hearing – Findings

- Cost and Benefit Issues

  – Transactions not fully utilized

  – Expense of implementation exceed expectations

TCS Hearing – Recommendations

- Outline of WEDI Recommendations

    – Continue HHS policy of allowing contingency plans

    – Enhance implementation process

    – Revise and enhance standards development process

    – Validate cost and benefit of TCS implementation

- Continue HHS policy of allowing contingency plans

  – Focus on full compliance while maintaining contingency

  – Focus effort on implementation of non-claim transactions

  – Continue effort on outreach

- Enhance implementation process

  - Do less at one time in more realistic time frame

  - Phase implementation by entity and by transaction

  - Establish standard communication protocols

  - Develop standard test data

TCS Hearing – Recommendations

- Enhance implementation process (continued)

  – Pilot standard prior to issuance of final rule

  – Establish authoritative technical interpretation of implementation guides

  – Educate system vendors on need for adherence to TCS regulations

TCS Hearing – Recommendations

- Revise & enhance standards development process

    – Enhance outreach for provider input into standards

    – Encourage business decision-makers to participate

    – Expedite process for correcting errors in standards

    – Develop solution for addressing COB data issues

TCS Hearing – Recommendations

- Revise & enhance standards development process (continued)

  - Address data content coding assessment and revisions issues

  - Require the use of standard acknowledgement and error reporting

  - Conduct assessment of new technologies

  - Expedite implementation of unique identifiers

TCS Hearing – Recommendations

- Validate cost and benefit of TCS implementation

    – Conduct realistic cost and benefit studies

    – Schedule review of such studies to ensure realization of net benefits

    – Identify further opportunities for achieving administrative simplification