



The Importance of April 16, 2003: Where You Should be in HIPAA Data Code Sets/Transactions Testing and Compliance

Presented by:

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Boundary Information Group



- Virtual consortium of health care information systems consulting firms founded in 1995
- Company website: www.boundary.net
- BIG HIPAA Resources: www.hipaainfo.net
- Senior Consultants with HIPAA leadership experience since 1992; administrative and clinical system experience
- Services include:
 - Strategic planning
 - Systems selection and implementation management
 - Workflow improvement
 - EMR, clinical and financial IS selection and operating improvement
 - HIPAA policies, procedures, and forms
 - Expert witness

Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange



- Nonprofit Trade Association, founded 1991
- 190 organizational members
 - Consumers, Government, Mixed Payer/Providers, Payers, Providers, Standards Organizations, Vendors
- Named in 1996 HIPAA Legislation as an Advisor to the Secretary of DHHS
- Website: www.wedi.org
- Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP) – snip.wedi.org
- WEDI Foundation formed in 2001
- Steven Lazarus, WEDI Past Chair and Foundation Trustee

Where Should We Be Today?

- Testing (ASCA Compliance)
 - Internal vs. External Testing not specified by Congress
 - CMS Implied Internal Testing
- Testing (Operations)
 - Need to achieve external testing with first trading partner as soon as possible (external testing)
 - Why? The big bang approach will not work (WEDI SNIP)
 - There are many steps to testing

Where is the Industry?

- No one knows
- Delay in publishing the Transactions Addendum until February 2003 resulted in many patient accounting vendors not shipping the 4010A1 upgrade until March – April 2003, or in customers ordering the upgrade from their vendors

Where are the Health Plans?

- WEDI and CAQH publish health plan transactions test and production data on one, free Web site
 - www.wedi.org/snip/caqhimpltools
 - *Transaction Implementation Timeline*
 - *Companion Guide Template*
 - WEDI – Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange
 - CAQH – Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare

Where are the Health Plans?

The screenshot shows the homepage of the WEDI/CAQH joint initiative website. The header features the WEDI and SNIP logos, along with navigation links for WEDI HOME, SNIP HOME, SEARCH, CONTACT, and SITE. A sidebar on the left contains a menu with items like 'ABOUT SNIP', 'WHAT'S NEW', 'CALENDAR OF EVENTS', 'WORKGROUPS & LISTSERVS', 'REGIONAL SNIP EFFORTS', 'SNIP WORK PRODUCTS', 'OTHER HIPAA RESOURCES', 'DISCUSSION FORUM', and 'WHAT IS HIPAA?'. The main content area includes a welcome message, a paragraph about the joint initiative's purpose, a section titled 'HIPAA Transactions Testing and Implementation Schedule' with a detailed description, a section for participating at no cost, a 'Best Practice' Companion Guide section, and a list of other important links. The footer contains the copyright notice: 'Copyright 2002, Strategic National Implementation Process.'

WEDI **SNIP**
Strategic National Implementation Process

WEDI HOME SNIP HOME SEARCH CONTACT SITE

CAQH COUNCIL FOR AFFORDABLE QUALITY HEALTHCARE
a catalyst for positive change

Welcome to the WEDI / CAQH joint initiative website.

The Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI) and the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) have joined forces to develop tools to assist healthcare organizations in their implementation of the X12N HIPAA transactions. Both initiatives were developed with input from multiple health plans, system vendors, provider representatives and healthcare / HIPAA industry experts.

HIPAA Transactions Testing and Implementation Schedule
The CAQH/WEDI HIPAA Transactions Testing and Implementation Schedule initiative was designed to facilitate industry-wide collaboration on the communication of HIPAA X12N and NCPDP Standards testing and production schedules. Plans can complete the standard template developed by CAQH and WEDI in order to communicate their plan-specific HIPAA X12N transactions and NCPDP Standards testing and production schedules on a central website. Ultimately, CAQH and WEDI hope this centralized site will assist in easing potential provider confusion related to HIPAA-driven changes in payer-provider interaction.

Any plan can participate at no cost and it takes only a few minutes to download the template. For instructions about how to participate, please click here "[Testing and Implementation Timeline](#)". If you have questions please contact Laura Strombotne at 202-861-1493, or lstrombotne@caqh.org between the hours of 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM EDT.

"Best Practice" Companion Guide
As a supplement to the X12N Implementation Guide, many plans are creating a "companion guide" that describes the specifics of how they will implement the HIPAA transactions. Currently, different plans are creating companion guides that vary in format and structure. The CAQH/WEDI "Best Practice" template provides guidelines on companion guide structure and topical areas plans should address, with the understanding that the content of a companion guide needs to be plan-specific.

All or part of the CAQH/WEDI "Best Practice" Companion Guide template can be used by any interested health plan. For instructions about how to download the template, please click here "[Best Practice Companion Guide](#)". If you have questions please contact Laura Strombotne at 202-861-1493, or lstrombotne@caqh.org between the hours of 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM EST.

Other Important Links Include:

- [WEDI HIPAA Glossary, http://www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/hipaa_glossary.pdf](http://www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/hipaa_glossary.pdf)
- [CAQH website, www.caqh.org](http://www.caqh.org)
- [Washington Publishing Company \(WPC\), http://www.wpc-edi.com/](http://www.wpc-edi.com/)
- [National Council for Prescription Drug Programs \(NCPDP\), www.ncpdp.org](http://www.ncpdp.org)

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Transaction Implementation Timeline

- Health plans can:
 - Post their timelines for testing and implementation

So...

- Providers/clearinghouses can:
 - View timelines for multiple plans, on one site, for free of charge

 ***Result: Timeline supports planning and coordination of testing schedules for providers/clearinghouses***

CAQH/WEDI Transactions Testing and Implementation Schedule Initiative
CONSOLIDATED HIPAA TRANSACTIONS SCHEDULES
LAST UPDATED - 2/24/2003

<u><i>Anthem BC/BS (Midwest)</i></u>	837I	837P	837D	COB	835	834	820	278 Request	278 Response	277	276	271	270
ANSI X12 Version	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010	4010
Health Plan Certification Level	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Trading Partner Required Certification Level	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
A	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
B	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:	4/2003 Date:
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General Notes	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.	For more information, OH, IN or KY contact: 800-470-9630, option 2.

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Trading Partner Required Certification Level	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Companion Guide Template

- The Companion Guide is a supplement to the X12N Implementation Guide used to reflect a payer's selected options and data requirements for HIPAA-AS transactions
- **Section 1 (General Information):** Relates information that applies to all transactions
- **Section 2 (Transactions-Specific Information) :** Uses a table that can be used for each transaction
- **Appendix:** Includes FAQ, Checklists, Examples and may vary by payer



Level of Participation

- Currently, 25 Health Plan Products for X12N and 3 for NCPDP

Observations

- Many large health plans and providers have implemented upgrades and are testing with a few trading partners
- Many providers have underestimated the resources needed to be ready on time
 - Started late
 - Viewed this as an EDI project
 - But it can include:
 - Data capture information systems applications
 - Data capture documents
 - Interfaces to the billing applications
 - Training
 - Workflow analysis and improvement



Observations

- Many health plans have not reported their transaction schedule
- Many CEs are focused only on claims
- Payer DDE “exception” solutions do not help large providers

Action Steps

- Allocate resources
- Test/certify with a third party to shorten the testing cycle
- Re-examine the benefits of the transactions (www.hipaainfo.net)
- Determine and implement strategic objectives relating to the benefits of standard transactions and code sets
- WEDI and NCVHS are considering the issue of industry readiness

Contact Information

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