

The Twelfth National HIPAA Summit™

The Leading Forum on Healthcare Privacy, Confidentiality, Data Security and HIPAA Compliance

Case Study of a Large Provider System's NPI Project Implementation

Suzanne Stewart, EDI Coordinator
Aurora Health Care
Milwaukee, WI

Aurora Health Care Background

- Aurora provides care at more than 250 locations in 75 communities.
- 10 billing systems producing 7,000,000 claims electronically annually
- Clinics
- Hospitals
- Labs
- VNA
- Pharmacy
- Other



Presentation Agenda:

- Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success
- Accomplishments
- Direct or Indirect Things Impacting the NPI Project
- Resolving the Issues
- Helpful Websites
- NPI Upcoming Events
- Closing Thoughts



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success

1. Communication

a. Internal:

NPI Taskforce

Distribute updates and information through communication vehicles

Evaluate the need to not only education employed providers, but those working with Aurora

b. External:

Share with Health Plans, NPI numbers after enumeration

Work with vendors regarding their NPI initiatives

Work with Organizations like WEDI and HIPAA COW to help educate and collaborate on NPI



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success, Cont.

2. Analysis on External Impacts

a. Vendors

Determine Products Impacted

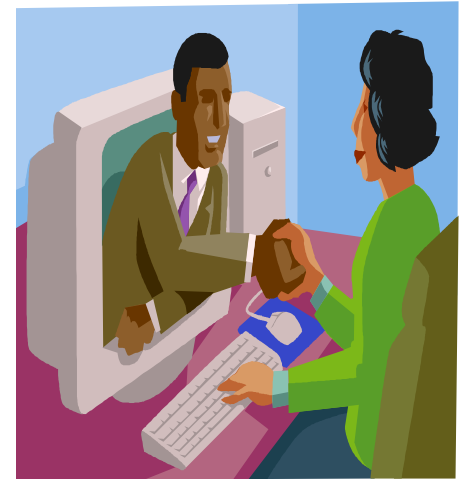
Have vendors complete NPI questionnaires

Determine risks and timelines

b. Health Plans

Have health plans complete NPI questionnaires

Determine risks and timelines



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success, Cont.

3. Aurora Internal Analysis

a. Regulation Review

NPI regulations

Any State regulations

Federal regulations on Medicare program
to determine subpart enumeration

b. Internal Impacts – Conducting gap assessments on NPI, other impacts due to NPI (I.e. claim form changes) and departments



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success, Cont.

4. Enumeration

- a. Evaluate what is needed via electronic vs. paper enumeration
- b. Determine Aurora's Strategy (Bulk, who, when, etc...)
- c. Review Data for Enumeration
- d. Conduct first "bulk" enumeration within 1st Quarter of 2006
- e. Make sure applications using NPI will be able to store it



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success, Cont.

5. Initial NPI Load

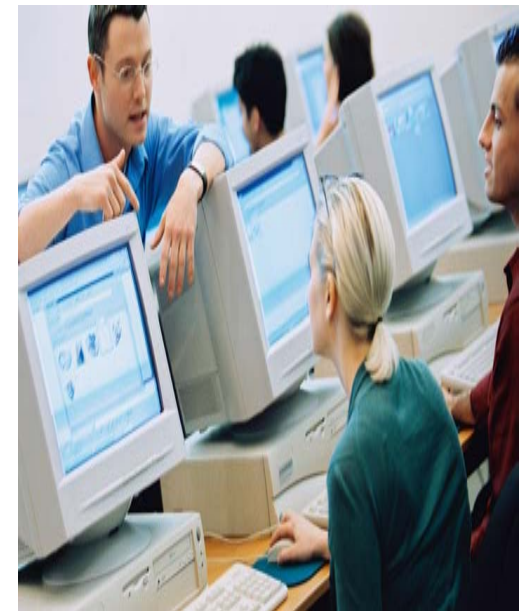
- a. Loading of the NPIs after first “bulk” enumeration
- b. Review of crosswalks
- c. Distribution of NPIs to providers
- d. First communication of NPI numbers to external parties



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success, Cont.

6. Testing

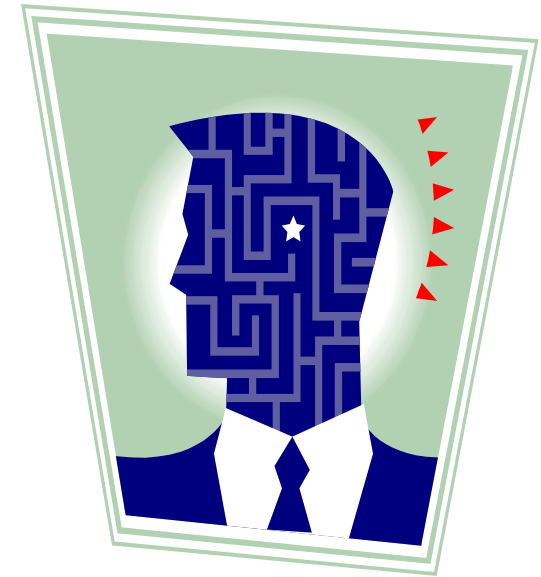
- a. Install any NPI vendor changes
- b. Install any claim form changes
- c. Begin testing process and verification of cross walks
- d. Conduct the dual use strategy with partners able to do this within the transactions
- e. Begin testing both the Electronic Transaction and Claim Form Changes
- f. Address and make changes as appropriate



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success, Cont.

7. Implementation

- a. Roll out any changed policies & procedures
- b. Conduct any training as needed
- c. Move updates from test environments to production
- d. Migrate to each claim form change by dates indicated
- e. Migrate to use of NPI in accordance with Trading Partner readiness



Aurora's 8 Major Tasks to NPI Success, Cont.

8. Ongoing Tasks for the NPI Project
 - a. Ongoing internal/external communication
 - b. Process for NPI enumeration/gathering
 - c. Coordination with trading partners
 - d. Evaluation of future products to contain NPI
 - e. Use of NPI beyond transactions and claims



Accomplishments

- Project Plan developed
- Communication
- Vendor analysis completed
- Health Plan analysis underway
- Enumeration Strategy Determined
- Review of Enumeration Data
- Started enumerating first rounds of individual NPIs
- Getting files for organizational NPIs



Direct or Indirect Things Impacting the NPI Project

- Will vendor changes be ready in a timely fashion?
- Claim Form Changes – It's not just a HIPAA Transaction Impact
- Coordination of Trading Partner's Readiness (Health Plans, Clearinghouses, etc...)
- Other internal projects involve the same resources



Direct or Indirect Things Impacting the NPI Project, Cont.

- Resolving duplicate NPI issues
- How to get NPIs of providers not associated with your organization – potential issues with dissemination
- Other industry changes impacting success of NPI project – I.e. Medicare Surrogate UPIN change



Resolving Issues NPI Related

- Work with collaborative efforts like WEDI and HIPAA COW
- Join Listservs on NPI to network with other organizations that may be going through similar situations – you're not alone!
- Bring issues to CMS' attention. If they don't know something is broke, how can it be fixed?



Helpful Websites

HIPAA COW – NPI brochure on website:

www.hipaacow.org

WEDI – NPIOI:

<http://www.wedi.org/npioi/index.shtml>

WEDI NPI Listservs (Note – Must be a WEDI Member)

<http://www.wedi.org/listserve/index.shtml>

CMS NPI:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProidentStand/>

NPPES Application Site:

<https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do>

NPI Upcoming Events

April 18-20 WEDI Announces NPI Hearing & ICD-10 Forum. WEDI Invites you to attend and participate in its NPI Hearing and an industry forum on ICD-10. WEDI is pleased to announce it will be hosting an NPI Hearing, Tuesday, April 18, 2006, at the Renaissance Chicago O'Hare in Chicago, IL. The purpose of the hearing is to identify and address the issues related to NPI implementation. More information will be forthcoming at the following website: http://www.wedi.org/npioi/public/articles/dis_viewArticle.cfm?ID=418

April 28th HIPAA COW Spring Conference at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. EDI Tracks are dedicated to NPI subjects such as Case Studies on NPI projects, Subparts Enumeration (Tentative) and NPI Roundtable. Brochure and further information will be posted at: <http://www.hipaacow.org/home/Events.aspx>

May 22-25 15th Annual WEDI National Conference. There will be a NPI Pre-conference day on May 22nd. You can find additional information at: http://www.wedi.org/npioi/public/articles/dis_viewArticle.cfm?ID=392

Closing Thoughts on NPI



Contact Information:

Suzanne Stewart – EDI Coordinator

suzanne.stewart@aurora.org

414-647-3398