

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
Business Office Coordinators, HIPAA Coordinators,
Information System Coordinators and Headquarters
Minutes for February 19, 2004
HIPAA Business Transactions Awareness Conference Call

Present

<i>ITSC</i>	Carl Gervais, Sandra Lahi, Ken Russell, and David White
<i>Headquarters</i>	Frank Martin; and Elmer Brewster, Health Science Administrator
<i>Aberdeen</i>	Colleen Laverdure, Fort Thompson
<i>Alaska</i>	Lue Rae Erickson, BOC, ANTHC
<i>Albuquerque</i>	Maureen Cordova, Director AIDC; and Sandra Winfrey, AAO Executive Officer
<i>Bemidji</i>	Margo Bahr, Site Manager; Charles Tudor, Computer Specialist; Jan Thunder, BOM, Red Earth <i>White Earth:</i> Julie Heisler
<i>Billings</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>California</i>	Jan Bergemann, Area ISC; Toni Johnson, IT Specialist; and Steve Lopez, Area ISSO
<i>Nashville</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>Navajo</i>	Roland Todacheenie, BOC; and Sharon Sorrell, BOM
<i>Oklahoma</i>	Sue Bear, Deputy BOC
<i>Portland</i>	David Battese, IT Specialist; and Leah Tom, BOC
<i>Phoenix</i>	Charolett Melcher, Health Systems Specialist
<i>Tucson</i>	Kurt Priessman, Budget Analyst

Meeting Began at 10:00 AM

Roll Call Roll call was taken. (Additional participants were received from the Conference Center that was emailed to David White.) David White continues to fill in as ITSC HIPAA Transaction Coordinator. We hope to have a permanent coordinator in the next 2-3 weeks.

Minutes The 01/22/04 Conference Call Minutes were approved by the group and posted to the IHS website.

AGENDA ITEMS ADDRESSED

Item #2 – Items of Follow up from ITSC Training held in February 2004

Issues Listing

Kurt Priessman had a question on issue #2 as it was described on the document. He felt the issue is not very specific. When there are funds being exchanged (an acquisition) there is an acquisition role. However, there are many situations where there is no acquisition role, specifically when it applies to TCS and Security. The issue is this: What guidance has been provided to Area Directors, Service Unit Directors, and those involved in HIPAA (Coordinators, TSC Coordinators, BOMs, etc.) concerning determining if there is a requirement to review, and sign these agreements? If IHS does in fact come up with a template, who is responsible for the negotiation? This situation also applies to Trading Partner Agreements and Companion Guides Is ITSC going to be responsible since they are the software vender)?

Frank will talk to Jocelyn Beer (Senior Attorney, Office of the Director of IHS) about this issue who will in turn work with the OGC staff.

NCEO Presentation Report

Sandra reported that the presentation to the NCEO meeting on February 10, 2004 went very well. She provided the presentation by stating the Area, Headquarters Program, and ITSC HIPAA responsibilities. The group was very supportive of the progress made to this point. In follow-up, Dr Harry will be making a similar presentation to the ELG next week.

997/824 Error Report software design

Sandra reported that there is an effort to design a software to assist sites with the Error Report function of the 837 processing. A meeting has been scheduled at Billings MT to include the 3P AR Tag members to assist with design and development.

National TPA/BAA legal guidelines

Frank Martin will talk with Joslyn from Headquarters East legal department with regard to TPAs/BAAs at the Regional and Area levels. The issues were discussed in detail in Item 1 of the Items of follow-up section.

National Training Online Modules

Elmer Brewster is charged with getting this designed and available to sites. He was not on the call when this was addressed. Suggested subjects included:

- How to negotiate a TPA/BAA
- Forms use (837/835)
- Preparing for transaction testing
- Indian Health Service CMS representation

Frank was going to talk to Elmer Brewster about this issue. Elmer stated he needed a charge for representation. It was noted that CMS stated there are no waivers issued for the private sector and so there probably will be no special considerations for the IHS. Elmer was unavailable to discuss this on the call.

Item #4 -- Reports from Area Office Leads/ITSC – (1) What Advances Have Your Area Made Towards HIPAA Business Transaction Testing? (2) Do you have a schedule for providing BTS Training sessions?

- Aberdeen** *No updated report provided.*
- Alaska** **Lue Rae reported that a** Business Office Manager conference call is scheduled for today to determine the status of HIPAA Transaction Compliance readiness. Lue Rae will query facilities from around the state.
- Albuquerque** **Sandra Winfrey reported that a** Business Office Manager meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2004 and HIPAA training is on the agenda. Other items include testing status needs. John Rael and Thelma David will be providing the training. ITSC will also be invited.
- Bemidji** Jan Thunder has agreements in place between Red Lake and MN Medicaid. No HIPAA training schedule established yet.
- Billings** *No updated report provided.*
- California** **Toni Johnson will** schedule a future meeting to determine how to bring Tribal Sites into the process for HIPAA transaction compliance. Items of training will include how to read error reports and correcting errors. Tribes have limited funds for HIPAA training and overall staffing resources are low. Cindy Brown of BCBS of CA hopes to be testing NCPDP 5. version soon. The next step is to assign numbers to sites and send a test file soon. There are problems with Toni Johnson's email. It is recommended to add her again to any global distribution list anyone has created. Dave White will add her again to the HIPAA distribution list.
- Nashville** *No updated report provided.*
- Navajo** Roland Todacheenie reported that Navajo Area focus has been converting to the 837 for AHCCCs. AHCCCs has defined a hard switch date of February 29, 2004. GIMC and Winslow are currently testing the 837. Chinle should begin testing tomorrow (02/20/04). Ft Defiance and Tuba City should be set up on Tuesday (02/24/04). Shiprock is scheduled later. Service Unit staff are attending 837 AHCCCS training today regarding sending the 837 transactions and error report reading. All Navajo personnel will receive

HIPAA Business Transaction training on Mar 9-10, 2004 in the Navajo Area Office.

Oklahoma

Sue Bear reported that they have been working with the Business Office Managers on doing assessments and these are due at the end of the month. Clinton SU will be testing the 835 format for Medicare Part A and Part B. W.W. Hastings is working with Arkansas Medicaid for possible testing of the 270/271 format. Oklahoma Area is also working with Infinity for processing of PI claims and Claredi for error reports.

Portland

David Battese reports status quo. Has been making time to continue to test OR and WA sites and spending about two days each. Still having mapping problems with Provider Taxonomy and crosswalks. He stated he has populated the fields and the 3P software still has not picking up the taxonomy code. ACTION ITEM: Carl Gervais will check with Shonda Render on this issue and provide feedback with Dave.

Phoenix

Charolett reported that most sites have tested direct submissions to AHCCCS. Still having Medicare A/B issue and waiting for a response from Sandra/Carl. PAO is also working with Claimsnet as a clearinghouse to send claims for PI, Medicare and Medicaid. PAO is also involved with the PNC Bank initiative to test 835 transactions with different payers. Parker and Hopi are testing the 835. Future testing will be scheduled with Medical, NV Medicaid, and UT Medicaid.

Tucson

Some issue 141 claims using Medicare B 837. Wants to get e-mail from Sylvia. Kurt has not heard from her. 835s to Medicare are not going anywhere. Submitted 837 ambulance claims need to get paid 4x the rate. Waiting on TPA between BCBS of AZ and PNC Bank. Agreed to test AR Patch 5.

ITSC

837 Third party billing, p5 status

Sandra Lahi

ITSC has continued to work with sites in processing 837 claims. Last week MS BC/BS and MS Medicaid files passed for Choctaw Hospital. ITSC has been successful for passing the "initial" testing with NM Medicaid. NM Medicaid is now calling for a second round of testing which includes an FTP software that ITSC is addressing.

Passed testing with Trailblazers Medicare Part B. Patch 4 is certified. We're ready to start submitting 837s. Trailblazers Medicare Part A final certification is in progress. Need to submit batches with vendor numbers as part of the certification process. To finalize Medicare Part A, ITSC is looking for a site to submit a batch with the RPMS IHS vendor number. Kurt volunteered Sells as a candidate for this.

Sandra Lahi

835 AR patch 4 released 1/15/04

Patch 5 to include AR Remarks Code & Inquiry option. Inquiry options will be distributed with patch 5 notes. Linda will be notifying the sites for testing.

ITSC is still working with PNC Bank on the Medicare Part B 835 and the Medco Pharmacy POS 835 file.

270/271 – Eligibility Inquiry & Response

Sandra Lahi Sill looking for test partners and sites to test.

Item #5 – Distribution of Area BT spreadsheets

David White will be distributing HIPAA Business Transaction Testing Reports to each Area. Please contact him to let him know who to send the report to.

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS/DISCUSSION

None

NEXT CONFERENCE CALL

The next call is scheduled for Thursday, 3/04/04 at 10:00 AM (MST). The conference call-in number is: (888) 531-9517 (Passcode: 46879).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:10 AM