All-Payor Claims Database (APCD) of Texas Submitter Feedback Forum
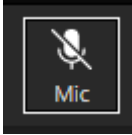
UTHealth School of Public Health
Center for Health Care Data

September 24, 2024

Welcome!

- Welcome and Housekeeping
  - Thank You!
  - Please place your audio on mute
 - Slides and notes will be made available on our website

Webex & Chat

- ◆ **<u>Reminder:</u>** The "Chat" function in Webex can be found on the bottom right-hand corner of your screen on most devices. In some instances, it may appear in the upper right-hand corner. Please enter your questions there.

- ◆ When entering a question in the chat, please respond to "**Everyone**" to ensure your question is visible so it can be acknowledged.

Desktop Application
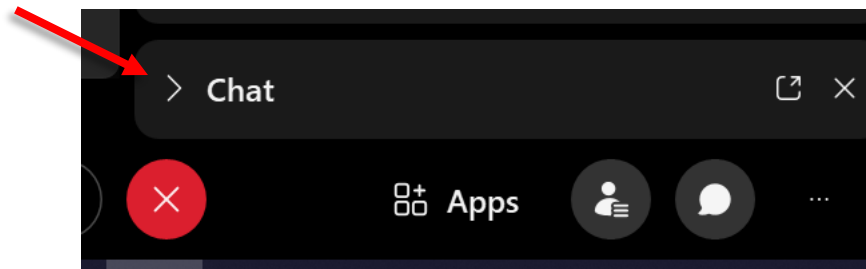
Website Application
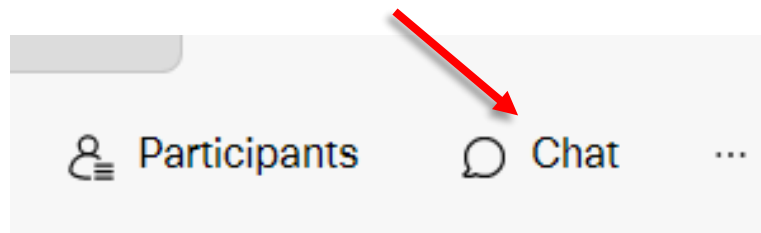
Agenda

- Valid Procedure Codes & Exception Requests
- TDI CDL 3.0.1
- Reminder on Data Format Validation
- Improvements (Format Validation – November)
- Claim Versioning
- Annual Registration & Request Renewal
- Test Files versus Production Files

Valid Procedure Codes & Exception Requests

- How to handle valid procedure codes that cause a submission failure
  - Our procedure codes may update on a different cadence from submitters.
    - For this reason, with everyone trying to keep their systems current at varying timeframes, it may lead to limited circumstances where a submitter may implement new codes before the codes are updated in our system.

  - Valid procedure codes **DO NOT** require an exception request.
    - Please submit a ticket via the portal for resolution. Within the ticket, provide a reference as confirmation for the valid code.

  - Internally developed carrier-specific codes should be submitted as a ticket via the portal for resolution rather than an exception as well.
    - We can accommodate a small amount of custom codes where a custom code is needed for one reason or another.

TDI CDL 3.0.1

- Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) Rulemaking Process Update
  - Formal comment period ended September 16th.
  - The next step is for TDI to issue a final regulation and an adoption order.
  - We suspect a final rule will require the Center to provide you all with at least a 90-day notice before the new Common Data Layout (CDL) takes effect.

  - We intend to provide greater than a 90-day notice.
    - Everyone is in the same boat – including us.
    - We need to update our code and test as well.

  - Be aware, the data file submission timeframe will change from 90 days post-claim adjudication to 30 days post-claim adjudication.
    - Details will be in the final rule.

  - As things progress we will send updates via the general mailbox at txapcd@uth.tmc.edu.

Improvements (Format Validation – November)

- This is a reminder from the July Submitter Forum
    - Starting in November 2024, data format will be validated.
    - The CDL specifies a data type and length for each field.
    - These types and lengths will be validated to improve overall data quality.

    - Example: character data will not be allowed in a numeric field.
        - "*****.**" will not be allowed as a monetary value (ex. charge amount)
        - "'17.65" will not be allowed as a monetary value (should be integer 1765)

    - Example: field data cannot exceed indicated length.
        - 74081-1234 will not be accepted for a postal code (10 characters)
        - 740811234 (9 characters)

IMPORTANT: *Please do NOT truncate any data. If you feel that you need to truncate data in order to meet the CDL specifications on data length, please open a ticket via the portal before doing so.*

Claim Versioning

- While most claims are processed and paid without more than a single version, a subset of claims go through multiple iterations over the lifespan.

- The precise path of a claim through its life is unpredictable.

- In order for the data to be used effectively in research, it is critical to be able to accurately reconstruct the "life of the claim", arriving at the "latest version" or the "most current version".

- The CDL and the Data Submission Guide (DSG) provide some guidance on claim versioning.

  - In reviewing the data, we have found that multiple ways of interpreting the guidance have been used across submitters.

  - We are working on improving guidance, while also striving to ensure that it aligns with the various different claims processing systems used by submitters.

  - This work is ongoing and should result in publication of clear guidance within the next month or two.

- We will work with each submitter to determine if any steps might need to be taken in respect of aligning with the updated guidance.

Annual Registration & Request Renewal

- Registrations and requests must be renewed annually. We will send out a notification when the new registration window is open for the 2025 data file submission year.

    - Even if you are a new submitter, that has just recently registered with the TX-APCD, submitting a new registration will still be required for 2025.

    - Please do not submit registration and request renewals until after the notification email is sent out. It will provide detailed instructions on how to renew for the New Year.

    - As a reminder, requests cannot be reviewed for determination until we have received a registration renewal and it has been processed as complete in our system for the 2025 data file submission year.

Test Files versus Production Files

- For submitters who are still in the test phase of data file submission:
    - Successfully passing the test phase is required before submitting production files.
    - Sending files to production is **NOT** automatic.
- If you believe your organization has passed the test phase, please submit a ticket via the portal with "test complete" in the subject line so your organization's data file submissions can be approved for production.
- Testing should be successfully completed for each submitter code and payor code.

Questions?

◆ Questions –
   ◆ Please submit via chat.
   ◆ If your question is specific to your organization, for:
      ◆ General questions – send email inquiries to txapcd@uth.tmc.edu.
      ◆ Portal and data submission questions – please enter a ticket via the submitter portal at https://txapcd.org.