HL7 Responses
NCVHS Subcommittee on Standards Hearing 1—Claims Attachments
Session 2

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Holiday Inn Rosslyn at Key Bridge

Arlington VA

Question #1

What is the current status of development of **standards** for attachments and **implementation guides**? What is the timing for development, testing standards?

Question #1

- Current work on HL7 Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) based attachments:
  - Is an evolution of our previous work and successful pilot projects with CMS;
  - Is aligned with and based on the same technology as ONC's Meaningful Use Stage 2 work-in-progress.

Question #2

Where do you see the standards for attachments going? How are these standards being harmonized with the standards developed/adopted for exchange of clinical information under the Meaningful Use program?

Question #2

- Attachments with proper privacy and consent controls have a wide potential of uses.
- Attachments should be based on the same technology as ONC's Meaningful Use.
- HL7 CDA supports packaging structured and/or unstructured data with electronic document support. It does not replace messaging or services. It is not a transport mechanism

Question #3

Are all the ‘priority’ areas identified by provider and payers being addressed in the development of the standards? Which areas might not be addressed? What other gaps have been identified? How can those gaps be addressed?

Question #3

- Current Attachment Types is through Industry outreach and analysis.
- Priority requests must come from industry and government.
- Requestors must bring domain experts to the specification process.
- Non-attachment prioritization has recently come by working with CMS on electronic submission of Medical Documentation (esMD) with HL7's EHR Record Management Evidentiary Support (RMES).

Question #4

What is the current status of common business rules (operating rules) for the requirement/submission of attachments in the industry? What are the areas where national standard business rules/operating rules for requiring /submitting attachments would be most beneficial?

Question #4

- Attachments vary greatly across the healthcare industry because provider types vary so widely.
- Attachments also vary by payer and provider type.
- Industry Domain Experts and HL7 Standards Experts are both required.

Question #5

One of the responsibilities of the Committee is to identify an authoring entity for national standard operating rules for claim attachments; would you be pursuing designation as an authoring entity?

Question #5

- Yes, HL7 – in collaboration with ASC X12
  - HL7 and ASC X12 have co-developed this standard by collaborating since 1996;
  - Both SDO's have also jointly collaborated on many projects since that time; demonstrating a clear ability to work together toward a common outcome that satisfies industry stakeholder needs;
  - Project Plans, processes, and liaisons to work together are already in place.