

Welcome to the Fall 2006 edition of the New Hampshire Comprehensive Health Care Information System Newsletter. You will be notified through e-mail each time the newsletter is posted to [www.nhchis.org](http://www.nhchis.org). In this edition we have primarily focused the articles on the National Provider ID requirement, a proposed Payer Conference and payer status.

## NH CHIS CURRENT SYSTEM STATUS

### Current NCDMS Status:

During the past calendar quarter NCDMS has been running in a production mode with around 33 payers required to submit data.

Currently NCDMS has received production data files from all but one payer required to submit data.

Since accepting files we have received 1829 submitted or re-submitted data files covering the time period of January 2005 through August 2006. The total number of files that have been Passed is 963, meaning on average each file is submitted twice before being accepted. Given that this is the first year of the NH CHIS data submission requirement that average is very good. As for volume of records, the system has processed over 103 million records with 59,384,355 records currently loaded into the system for the files that have a status of 'Passed'. Remember, the Aug 2006 production paid data is due to us by Oct 30, 2006.

During the last quarter we have had no reported significant downtime or maintenance shutdown periods.

### What's on Tap?

We have begun working on an Annual Payer Data Submission Analysis report with one of the sections being an analysis of the NCDMS default load thresholds that have been set. Now that a substantial volume of data is available, this report will give us a much better idea of industry standards reporting levels for selected fields which may result in some changes to our load process default threshold values.

## NH CHIS CURRENT DATA STATUS

### Current Data Status:

Data has now started to flow to us at a much more acceptable and expected rate. All but one of the carriers has submitted acceptable data files for the 18 month period of January 2005 through June 2006 for all three data types (eligibility, medical & pharmacy). We will continue to work with payers that still owe us overdue datasets.

As we draw near to the end of 2006, remember that any payer level load thresholds will expire on 12/31/2006. That means if you still need a particular threshold to be lower than our default threshold, you will need to make a request to allow your payer level threshold to be maintained during the 2007 calendar year. Remember, payer level thresholds are not designed to be a permanent fix to a missing data issue. You should be working within your organization to address any missing data reporting problems that we have identified.

The New Hampshire Insurance Department (NHID) has taken compliance action on several payers that have had major amounts of data and files overdue. They are continuing to monitor the status of files and will take action on any payers that have compliance issues in the future. To view the latest status of your file submissions compared to the other payers please visit the following link:

[www.nhchis.org](http://www.nhchis.org) and click on the datastatus report link near the bottom of the page. This report is updated dynamically every night through our system updating process.

## GENERAL DATA RULE NOTES

### National Provider Identification (NPI) Use & Compliance

The MHIC has confirmed that providers of all types have been requesting and receiving assignment of their NPI numbers from a national databank. The MHIC has also confirmed that the implementation schedule for the use of this identifier is to be no later than May 23, 2007 for all providers and payers. Please refer to the following link to get the current HIPAA information regarding the NPI:  
<http://www.hipaadvisory.com/Regs/finalprovid/pro.htm>.

MHIC will work with approval of the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and NHID, to assign a default required load threshold value for the NPI field that will be effective on the June 2007 paid data submitted in July 2007. We highly recommend that if you have not started IT processes to accept and store this information in your Data Warehouse, that you begin the process in the very near future.

### Consolidated & Public Use Datasets

The initial consolidated and Public Use datasets containing 2005 Incurred data with about 3 months paid run out have been delivered to NH DHHS, NHID and selected outside entities to help us evaluate the data package (Public Use Dataset ONLY). A number of analyses have been performed on the data and we have held weekly calls with NH DHHS and NHID to answer data questions and determine any problem resolutions.

We have used this forum to identify potential short comings in the data that may result in modifications to our Data Quality Review process or even in working with a specific payer to correct or explain particular data occurrences. We do not make a practice of modifying existing Data Quality edits, however; if new Data Quality edits are identified through this process we will implement them on a going forward basis.

By doing this it is possible that a file that has passed historically will actually fail after a new edit is put in place. If we can determine if a new edit will affect particular payers we will attempt to identify, to those payers, what the problem is and how it will need to be resolved before the new edit is put in place.

Currently there are a number of new DQ edits that will be tested and go into place over the next few months. We will notify you of any new edits via email in the future.

## DATA RELEASE RULE

### NH Data Release Rule Approved

The approved NH CHIS Data Release rule has been posted on [www.nhchis.org](http://www.nhchis.org) for your review. At this time the 2005 Incurred Consolidated Dataset has been released to NH DHHS and NHID for their use. The MHIC, under authorization from NH DHHS, has also produced and delivered the preliminary 2005 Public Use Datasets to 4 entities to help us produce a finalized dataset package for general release.

## EVENTS

### 2006 Annual Payer Conference

As part of our contract with NH DHHS, the MHIC will host an annual payer conference to give an update on a number of different topics and give you a forum for feedback to the MHIC, NH DHHS and NHID. This year we are purposing to hold the conference in the month of October.

Before setting a location & date we would like some feedback from you...

We would like to know your likelihood of attending a face-to-face meeting in Concord NH or joining a Webinar presentation from your office? We will only offer one of these venues for the conference.

The tentative agenda that we have developed for this conference covers the following topics:

- 1) **Data Status** – current payer/data status and review of the annual payer data submission analysis report.
- 2) **Compliance** – From payer level thresholds to payer defined provider specialty code to implementation of the NPI.
- 3) **Current Data Reporting** – Including NCDMS reports available to you and developed data analysis reports that have posted to the public.
- 4) **Data Use** – From the development & delivery of the claims consolidation dataset to public reports and the public use dataset.

### If you would be interested in attending this conference please send an email to:

[nhinfo@ncdms.org](mailto:nhinfo@ncdms.org). Give the email a subject of '2006 Payer Conference' and tell us your preference in venue – face-to-face or Webinar.

As a venue and timeframe are firmed up over the next week you will be receiving an invitation email that will have a defined agenda for the conference. It is our hope that all of you will find the information useful to you and you will make an attempt to attend.

## **KEY EMAIL ADDRESSES**

- [nhinfo@ncdms.org](mailto:nhinfo@ncdms.org) for general questions
- [WebAdmin@ncdms.org](mailto:WebAdmin@ncdms.org) for questions or issues regarding the web site, including the data upload process and encryption software.
- [nhdata@ncdms.org](mailto:nhdata@ncdms.org) for questions or issues regarding a Data Submission or data file status. This includes questions about sending data via the web.

Thank you for your time and support for this project and we look forward to working with you in the coming months.

Adam J. Thebeau  
Director of Health Information Systems  
Maine Health Information Center

## **KEY DATES:**

**ALL OVERDUE FILES ARE DUE NOW UNLESS YOU HAVE AN APPROVED EXTENSION**

**09/30/2006** – Aug Paid Claims and Eligibility Due

**10/31/2006** – Sep Paid Claims and Eligibility Due

**09/30/2006** – 2005 w/6+ months run out and 1<sup>st</sup> 6 months 2006 Consolidated Datasets due to NH DHHS & 2005 Public release dataset available by approved request.

**10/2006** – 2006 Annual Payer Conference. Date, time & venue will be confirmed shortly.

**PAYER FIELD LEVEL EXEMPTIONS EXPIRE ON 12/31/2006 – You MUST re-apply for field level exemptions for 2007 data.**