



February 2021 Virtual Interim Work Group Recaps:

Work Group 1 Telecommunication

DERFs/ECLs Reviewed:

- DERF 001798/ECL 000336 was recommended to MC to approve with modifications.
- DERF 001800/ECL 000338 was recommended to MC to approve.
- DERF 001809/Emergency ECL 000339 was pended back to the WG1 Point of Sale Rebate Review Task Group for additional work.
- DERF 001810/Emergency ECL 000340 was pended back to the WG1 Point of Sale Rebate Review Task Group for additional work.

Task Groups:

- The **Telecommunication FAQ Task Group** reviewed modifications to FAQ #4 in the *Recommended Use of Quantity Prescribed (460-ET) in NCPDP Telecommunication Standard Version D.0* paper and provided guidance on handling obsolete data in the *Telecommunication Version D and Above Questions, Answers and Editorial Updates*.
 - The **FAQ Controlled Substance Guidance Update Sub-Task Group** created Version 13 of *Recommended Use of Quantity Prescribed (460-ET) in NCPDP Telecommunication Standards Version D.0* which includes an update to FAQ #4. The modification to the question was not approved and was sent back to the sub-task group for additional work.
 - The **FAQ Insulin Pen Packaging Claim Adjudication Guidance Sub-Task Group** reviewed background documentation and correspondence and will be drafting recommendations to present at the May Work Group meeting.
- The **P and C/WC Monitoring, Billing and Education Task Group** created a letter to the Kentucky Department of Workers' Claims on proposed changes to the workers' compensation pharmacy fee schedule and presented legislative and regulatory developments for the last quarter.
- The **Coordination of Benefits Task Group** reviewed and answered two questions (one of which was approved for publication in the *Telecommunication Version D and Above Questions, Answers and Editorial Updates*) and published the *Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Part B Coordination of Benefit Barriers and Recommendations White Paper*.
- The **Information Reporting Problems Task Group** continued review of the COB White Paper, reported new BIN and PCNs from the CMS SPAP/ADAP BIN/PCN list and assisted the WG9 Clarify Chapter 14 Sponsor Requirements for COB Time Frames Sub-Task Group by working on updates to Chapter 14 (Coordination of Benefits) of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual.
- The **Post Adjudication Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Definition of a Valid Prescriber Task Group** created Task Group FAQ D60 addressing future reinstatement dates on the CMS preclusion file and is working to update the provider information in the *Telecommunication Version D and Above Questions, Answers and Editorial Updates*.
- The **Eligibility Verification Enhancements Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Benefit Integration Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Standardized Subrogation Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Expand Dollar Fields Task Group** did not meet this quarter.

- The **Clinical and Safety Edits Task Group** discussed the need for specific Professional Service and Reason For Service Codes and reviewed business case scenarios for response fields as related to Safe Disposal.
- The **Point of Sale Rebate Review Task Group** drafted letters to OIG and CMS requesting additional guidance and confirmation of assumptions and approaches and submitted ECL DERFs for Structured Message Fields and Approved Message codes.
- The **Telecommunication Agility Next Generation (TANG) Task Group** requested WG1 focus on a recommendation for a modern format for the Telecommunication Standard and defer the Standards' format harmonization concerns to a proposed task group in Maintenance and Control. The work group approved the recommendation of JSON for a future HIPAA named version of the Telecommunication Standard (after Version F6). The task group shared a NCPDP Foundation grant opportunity for comprehensive data modeling/testing for replacing the EDI format in the Telecommunication Standard.
- The **Pharmacy Product Locator Task Group** reviewed draft questions and will finalize a questionnaire to understand interest and need to create a standard to support a pharmacy product locator tool.
- The **Pharmacy Services Billing Task Group** reviewed fields and data elements in the NCPDP S1 transaction and X12 837P transaction this quarter and will begin a gap analysis of each next quarter.

Other Reportables:

- **DSMO Change Requests:** An update on the status of the DSMO Change Request 1201 (New Version of the Batch Standard), 1202 (New Standard - Subrogation Implementation Guide for Batch Standard) and 1208 (New Version of the Telecommunication Standard) was provided in the WG1 download materials.

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

Work Group 2 Product Identification

Task Groups:

- The **Product Review and Billing Unit Exception Task Group** reviewed issues resulting from changes to existing products or to the release of new products. The task group:
 - Reviewed and submitted to WG2 for adjudication one new QUIC form (see final adjudication determination by the Work Group in this report):
 - QUIC #202007 SUTAB
 - Reviewed three products via email and four during task group calls for verification of the package size or billing unit to list within the drug data compendia files.
 - Drafted a FAQ for the Billing Unit Standard regarding the billing unit assignment for Jelmyto.
 - Created two FAQs for the Emergency Preparedness Guidance regarding COVID-19
 - Explanation of the BU exception for the COVID-19 vaccines.
 - Necessity of a new NDC when products move from Emergency Use Authorization to Commercial Use
 - Submitted a letter to FDA re: recommendations for Emergency Use Approved Coronavirus vaccines transitioning to commercial use approval.
 - For September through December 2020, 2,795 new Structured Product Label (SPL) Billing Unit Index files were generated with no changed SPL Billing Unit Index

files based on the files received by the FDA from the compendia. The compendia group has reconciled 39 of the 40 NDCs with discrepancies.

- The **Naming Standards for Drugs, Biologics and Biosimilars Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Outsourcing Facility Task Group** completed a response letter to the FDA's reply requesting clarification to the task group's March 2020 letter proposing an addition of a new Structured Product Labeling Marketing Category for Outsourcing Facility Medications. The letter was sent to FDA on January 21, 2021.

Other Reportables:

- **WG11 REMS Workflow to Transaction Task Group, MC NDC Scarcity Task Group and MC Digital Therapeutics Task Group:** Recaps for these task groups were provided in the WG2 download materials.

New Business:

- New QUIC Form Review and Final Adjudication:
 - QUIC #202007 SUTAB
BU=EA and Quantity = 24 per section 5.1.18 of the Billing Unit Standard.
- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

Work Group 7 Manufacturer and Associated Trading Partner Transaction Standards

Task Groups:

- The **Manufacturer Rebate Standard Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Medical Rebate Standard Task Group** did not meet this quarter.

Other Reportables:

- **WG1 Point of Sale Rebate Review Task Group:** Recap for this task group was provided in the WG7 download materials.

New Business:

- Discussed DERF 001809/Emergency ECL 000339 and DERF 001810/Emergency ECL 000340 based on DERF Harmonization – awareness only.
- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

Work Group 9 Government Programs

Task Groups:

- The **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Task Group** monitored PMP information for Wyoming, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kentucky, Illinois, New Hampshire and Louisiana and updated the [State PMP Tracking Document](#) which was approved by WG9.
- The **340B Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Government Programs Encounter Reporting Standards Task Group** continued to work on the development of one common standard that can be used by all states to report Medicaid pharmacy encounter data. The task group completed the initial draft of the implementation guide. Next quarter the implementation guide will be finalized, and a DERF will be submitted requesting approval of the Medicaid Pharmacy Encounters Reporting Standard.
- The **Medicaid Frequently Asked Questions Task Group** worked in conjunction with the WG1 Coordination of Benefits Task Group to review a question related to how COB payers can distinguish Cash Discount “wrap” programs from insured/covered benefits. In order to have

broader participation on the cash discount topic, it was decided the question should be moved to the WG1 Telecommunication FAQ Task Group.

- The **Hospice Task Group** continued to work on a pilot project which extracts data from a hospice's electronic health record (EHR) and routes information to the correct Part D plan in real-time, thereby minimizing delays in the prior authorization process.
- The **Medicare Standardized Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA) Training Attestation Task Group** did not meet this quarter. The task group will meet next quarter to review suggested modifications to the FWA Training Attestation form.
- The **Medicare Prescription Drug Event (PDE) Task Group** reviewed Question 90: PDE Reject 784 Issues, Question 93: PDE Delete Requests to Terminated Medicare Part D Plans, participated in the WG1 Point of Sale Rebate Review Task Group review of the final rule and participated with other task groups in the review of Chapter 14 (Coordination of Benefits) of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual.
- The **Medicare Financial Information Reporting (FIR) Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Medicare Part D FAQ Task Group** reviewed Question 164: Returning Co-pay or Co-insurance Greater than Zero/Patient Pay Formula.
- The **Coordination of Benefits Contractor (COBC)/Benefits Coordination & Recovery Center (BCRC) Task Group** worked with the WG9 Clarify Chapter 14 Sponsor Requirements for COB Time Frames Sub-Task Group on suggested revisions to Chapter 14 (Coordination of Benefits) of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual, continued to review the Medicare Part D HPMS BIN/PCN List updates for plan accuracy, worked with BCRC to correct the issue of blank insurer names on COB-Other Health Information records and formed the Medicare Part D Section 111 Issues and Questions Sub-Task Group due to the many questions received regarding Section 111 issues.
 - The **Clarify Chapter 14 Sponsor Requirements for COB Time Frames Sub-Task** (formerly COB OHI Reporting Limits to 36 Months Sub-Task Group) continued to review Chapter 14 (Coordination of Benefits) of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual and coordinate changes with the WG9 Prescription Drug Event (PDE) Task Group.
 - The **Medicare Part D Section 111 Issues and Questions Sub-Task Group** is creating a list of industry issues for Responsible Reporting Entities (RREs) and Medicare Part D Plans. A best practice guide for providing accurate Section 111 COB-OHI records to Medicare Part D Plans will be written.

Other Reportables:

- **WG1 Point of Sale Rebate Review Task Group:** Recap for this task group was provided in the WG9 download materials.

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

Work Group 10 Professional Services

Task Groups:

- The **WG14/WG10 Standardized Medication Profile Task Group** completed their gap analysis of the NCPDP and HL7® standards and determined HL7® FHIR® would be the best standard for the standardized medication profile. The task group will continue working on outlining the progress of this effort, including the gap analysis, and next steps to bring the work to the HL7® Pharmacy Work Group.

- The **Identification of Social Determinants of Health Task Group** did not meet this quarter but will be working on a white paper about the use of Social Determinants of Health information in NCPDP standards.
- The **MTM and Pharmacist Clinical Services Task Group** reported the HL7® Technical Steering Committee is reviewing the NCPDP/HL7® Pharmacist eCare Plan C-CDA template and Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) Implementation guides before working jointly with NCPDP to submit to ANSI. For the Comprehensive Medication Review (CMR) Summary FHIR® wrapper, the project is on hold until HL7® completes the Multiple Chronic Conditions (MCC) eCare Plan development for a FHIR® version of an eCare Plan Summary. For the Beneficiary Level Report (BLR), the task group is working on a guidance document recommending a BLR standard for exchange between the provider of the MTM services to the MAPD or PDP including identification of NCPDP and/or HL7® standards.
- The **mL White Paper Task Group** is finalizing the mL White Paper now named, “NCPDP Recommendations for Standardizing Dosing in Metric Units (mL) on Prescription Container Labels of Oral Liquid Medications, Version 2.0.” The paper was submitted electronically to the *American Journal of Hospital Pharmacy (AJHP)* in November 2020 and in December 2020, the White Paper was accepted for publication in *AJHP* and its publishing partner Oxford University Press as a special feature. The online version of the White Paper will be published simultaneously in *AJHP* and on NCPDP’s website in early March. The print version will be published in the April 1st issue of *AJHP*.
- The **Universal Medication Schedule White Paper Task Group** did not meet this quarter but will begin working on the detailed background with a core group, modifying the drafted recommendations as needed until a full draft document can be circulated for review and comment.
- The **Pharmacogenomics Task Group** reviewed and modified their scope and goals. They will begin creating best practices/standards to communicate clinically relevant pharmacogenomics information.

Other Reportables:

- **WG18 Specialty Requirements for ePrescribing Task Group, WG14 Consultant Pharmacist Interoperability Task Group and WG1 Pharmacy Services Billing Task Group:** Recaps for these task groups were provided in the WG10 download materials.

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

Work Group 11 ePrescribing & Related Transactions

DERFs Reviewed:

- DERF 001780 was approved as modified.
- DERF 001782 was approved as modified.
- DERF 001811 was approved.
- DERF 001812 was approved.
- DERF 001813 was approved.
- DERF 001814 was approved.
- DERF 001815 was approved.
- DERF 001816/ECL 000341 was pended to the SCRIPT Implementation Recommendations Task Group.

Task Groups:

- The **Dispensed Medication Reporting Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **ePrescribing Regulatory Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Formulary and Benefit Task Group** brought forth DERF 001782. The task group is working on recommendations for the *Formulary and Benefit Implementation Recommendations* document for Version 53.
- The **Implementation of Structured Sig Task Group** continued to work with the WG11 XML Task Group on some naming and structure issues with the structured sig format. In addition, the task group reviewed the Sig examples in the *SCRIPT V2017071 Examples* document and made modifications based on the new Sig grammar rules. The Examples documents will be updated and republished.
- The **Pharmacy to Pharmacy Prescription Transfer Task Group** continued working on a push model for prescription transfer.
- The **Prior Authorization Workflow to Transactions Task Group** presented DERF 001812. During the next quarter, the task group will continue working on what is not a duplicate transaction.
- The **REMS Workflow to Transactions Task Group** did not meet this quarter. Task Group was moved to MC because recent changes in the Transmucosal Immediate Release Fentanyl (TIRF) Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program will also impact the Telecommunication Standard.
- The **WG11/WG14 RxFill Task Group** brought forth DERF 001814.
- The **SCRIPT Implementation Recommendations Task Group** brought forth DERFs 001780 and 001813 and received approval for two new FAQs for inclusion in the *SCRIPT Implementation Recommendations* document. The task group also received approval for a new procedure related to the naming of a new version of the NCPDP SCRIPT Standard.
 - The **Insulin Pump Use Sub-Task Group** defined their scope.
 - The **RxChange Guidance Review Sub-Task Group** continued reviewing current guidance and will update as necessary.
- The **X12 270/271 version 7030 Review Task Group** submitted additional comments on behalf of NCPDP for the X12 270/271 TR3.
- The **XML Task Group** brought forth DERF 001815. The task group reviewed and provided recommendations on all submitted DERFs impacting the schema.

Other Reportables:

- Reviewed DERF 001816/ECL 000341.
- An Electronic Prescriptions for Controlled Substances (EPCS) update was provided.
- SCRIPT Version 2017071 NSC-11 certified members were recognized.

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

WG14 Long Term and Post Acute Care (LTPAC)

Task Groups:

- The **LTPAC Billing Issues Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Consultant Pharmacist Interoperability Task Group** did not meet this quarter but has plans for a pilot that incorporates the task group's recommendations and applies FHIR® resources to the Consult Note C-CDA. The task group also plans to update the guidance to incorporate FHIR® resources. The task group requested participation from individuals with FHIR® and FHIR® Resources knowledge.

- The **Long Term and Post-Acute Care ePrescribing Task Group** submitted DERF 001811 which was approved in WG11 ePrescribing and Related Transactions. Approval was received to add a new section to the *SCRIPT Implementation Recommendations* document. The task group will continue working on guidance and modifications to the SCRIPT Standard to meet LTPAC needs.
 - The **Multi Communication Sub-Task Group** worked on preparing general recommendations for multi-party communications.
- The **WG14/WG10 Standardized Medication Profile Task Group** completed their gap analysis of the NCPDP and HL7® standards and determined HL7® FHIR® would be the best standard for the standardized medication profile. The task group will continue working on a paper outlining the progress on this effort, including the gap analysis and next steps to submit the work to the HL7® Pharmacy Work Group.
- The **WG11/WG14 RxFill Task Group** brought forth DERF 001814 which was approved in WG11 ePrescribing and Related Transactions.

Other Reportables:

- Received a LTPAC industry update

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

Work Group 18 Specialty Pharmacy

Task Groups:

- The **Specialty Requirements for ePrescribing Task Group** monitored the ballot process for the jointly developed Specialty Implementation Guide with HL7®. Task Group members attended the HL7® Connectathon in January 2021 to get feedback on the Specialty Implementation Guide as part of the HL7® balloting process. The task group will review and reconcile the HL7® ballot comments.
- The **Specialty Pharmacy Data Exchange Task Group** continued working on the 'Performance Metrics'. There is a pharmacy willing to pilot the Specialty Pharmacy Data Reporting Standard and a manufacturer partner is needed. The task group will start to develop a standard for Performance Metrics and continue outreach for pilot participants.
- The **Stakeholder Outreach and Education Task Group** was disbanded.
- The **Benefit Coverage Identification Task Group** reviewed a presentation on FHIR® Coverage Requirements Discovery (CRD), Documentation Templates and Rules (DTR) and Prior Authorization Support (PAS) transactions from the Da Vinci project as a means to aid in benefit investigation and discussed guidance for the X12 270/271 use and support.
- The **Patient Consent Task Group** clarified the three data transmission events needed to meet the goals of the business cases along with working on the data content needed. The task group reviewed and modified their scope and goals.
- The **Facilitation Access to Specialty Products Task Group** continues to work through the case study to provide recommendations to support information regarding Patient Access/HUB Services and specialty product distribution. They met with representatives from the pharmaceutical industry to help understand the process and key players regarding decisions for HUB services and limited distribution products. The task group continues to work on a guidance document to provide recommendations to support information regarding patient access/hub services and specialty product distribution.

Other Reportables:

- **WG1 Expanded Dollar Fields Task Group, WG10 Identification of Social Determinants of Health Task Group, WG11 Prior Authorization Workflow-to-Transaction Task Group, WG11 REMS Workflow-to-Transaction Task Group and MC Real Time Prescription Benefit Standard Task Group:** Recaps for these task groups were provided in the WG18 download materials.

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

Work Group 45 External Standards Assessment and Implementation Guidance

Old Business:

- Industry updates were provided for WEDI, NCPDP SNIP, CAQH CORE and X12.

Task Groups:

- The **834/835 FAQ Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Document Revisions Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Pharmacy and/or Combination ID Card Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **DSMO Task Group** received no DSMO requests for review.

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.

MC Maintenance and Control – DERF Harmonization

New Business:

- There were no DERFs referred to other Work Groups.
- The following DERFs were highlighted to create awareness.
 - DERF 001809/Emergency ECL 000339
 - DERF 001810/Emergency ECL 000340
 - DERF 001811
 - DERF 001812
 - DERF 001813

MC Maintenance and Control

DERFs/ECLs: 10 new and 5 pended DERFs/ECLs were reviewed (see WG1 and WG11).

- DERF 001780 was approved as modified.
- DERF 001782 was approved as modified.
- DERF 001798/~~ECL 000336~~ was approved as modified.
- DERF 001800/ECL 000338 was approved.
- DERF 001807 was withdrawn.
- DERF 001809/Emergency ECL 000339 was pended.
- DERF 001810/Emergency ECL 000340 was pended.
- DERF 001811 was approved.
- DERF 001812 was approved.
- DERF 001813 was approved.
- DERF 001814 was approved.
- DERF 001815 was approved.
- DERF 001816/ECL 000341 was pended.

- DERF 001817/ECL 000342 was approved with modifications.
- DERF 001818 was approved.

Old Business:

- Updates for the following were provided in the MC download materials:
 - HIPAA
 - SNIP Committee
 - DSMO Change Request System (CRS) Requests No. 1201, 1202 and 1208

Task Groups:

- The **Education/Legislation and Regulations Task Group** submitted comments to CMS on CMS-9123-P Reducing Provider and Patient Burden by the January 4, 2021, deadline.
- The **Emergency Preparedness Task Group** created guidance on billing for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines which was published in December and distributed to NCPDP members, CMS and state Medicaid directors. The task group has continued to enhance the guidance and presented an updated version for approval which the Work Group granted.
- The **X12 TR3 Comment Consolidation Task Group** did not meet this quarter.
- The **Real Time Prescription Benefit Standard Task Group** submitted DERF 001818 which proposes modification to the Real Time Prescription Benefit (RTPB) Standard to support the Drug Discount Program use cases. The DERF was approved. The task group worked on modifications to the Examples Guide associated to Version 11 of the Standard. The task group also received the final update from Johns Hopkins from their NCPDP Foundation sponsored pilot of the RTPB Standard.
 - The **Consumer-Facing RTPB and Price Transparency Sub-Task Group** is reviewing the functionality offered in the *HL7® FHIR® CARIN Consumer Realtime Pharmacy Benefit Check Implementation Guide* as part of an evaluation process to identify the best solution, whether it is leveraging an existing internal or external Standard or creating something new.
- The **Gender Transition Task Group** updated the FAQ guidance on Sex Assigned at Birth. The task group also looked at the use of the value “unknown” with the values added to clarify gender. The co-leads presented a NCPDP webinar, *Gender Transition: Overcoming the Hurdles Today and in the Future*.
- The **Digital Therapeutics Task Group** completed a gap analysis of the RTPB Standard and the X12 835 and confirmed no additional data elements are needed to support the initial use case of the task group. The task group began to discuss business models in the digital therapeutics industry to identify potential additional use cases. The co-leads presented at a NCPDP/HIMSS Town Hall webinar, *Utilizing NCPDP Industry Standards for Digital Therapy*.
- The **NDC Scarcity Task Group** is on hiatus and did not meet this quarter.
- The **Patient Identification Task Group** is on hiatus and did not meet this quarter.
- The **Definition and Use of Quantity and Day Supply Task Group** discussed multiple options for a new definition for Days Supply (405-D5) and DaysSupply as a result of the November Work Group discussion of DERF 001807. The task group evaluated the use and purpose of the two data elements in each transaction and in each standard where it exists. Since identifying a new definition for days supply that will work across all standards and for all types of stakeholders is a challenge, the task group will be exploring other options (e.g., qualifier fields and/or new fields related to days supply). Also, DERF 001807 was withdrawn.
- The **2D Barcode Implementation Task Group** continued to update the *NCPDP GS1 DataMatrix White Paper*.

New Business:

- The efforts of the Task Group Leaders were recognized. Certificates of Appreciation were mailed to the leads.
- NCPDP Most Valuable Participants were announced.
- The MC NCPDP Standards Message Structure Harmonization Task Group was formed to determine the best path forward regarding harmonization of the message formats for all standards within NCPDP.
- The REMS Workflow to Transactions Task Group was moved from WG11 ePrescribing and Related Transactions to MC because recent changes in the Transmucosal Immediate Release Fentanyl (TIRF) Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program will also impact the Telecommunication Standard.