National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics

Private Sector Operating Rules Hearing
for Administrative Simplification in Healthcare

HIMSS Testimony

July 20, 2010 | Washington, DC

transforming healthcare through IT™

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)

- **Cause-based**
  - HIMSS is cause-based comprehensive healthcare-stakeholder membership organization exclusively focused on providing global leadership for the optimal use of information technology (IT) and management systems for the betterment of healthcare.
- **Diverse and Active Volunteers**
  - Over 30,000 individual, 85 not-for-profit organizations and 450 corporate members
  - Offices in Chicago, Washington, DC, Brussels, Singapore, Leipzig and other locations around the world
- **Celebrating our 50th Anniversary**
  - HIMSS is celebrating 50 years of transforming healthcare through the effective use of information technology and management systems

Introduction to HIMSS' Work on Administrative Efficiency

- **Unification with two groups – AFECHT and the Medical Banking Project – brings focus at HIMSS on the importance of administrative efficiency**
  - AFEHCT (Association for Electronic Health Care Transactions) served the healthcare financial systems community
  - The Medical Banking Project provides an educational forum and industry action group for the electronic integration and convergence of banking and healthcare financial Systems
- **Educational Programs, Workgroups and Tools**
  - 5010/ICD10 Task Force, annual survey and market preparedness tool
  - ICD-10 Webinars and Symposium
  - Collaborations with X12, WEDI, EHNAC, CAQH, AAHAM and many others
- **Our primary stakeholders are providers of healthcare services**
- **HIMSS-NACHA-CAQH CORE platform to support section 1104 initiatives**

Key Insights Gained from Other Cross Stakeholder Initiatives at HIMSS

- **HIMSS Medical Banking Project**
  - Developed cross-industry educational venues that linked banking and healthcare groups that eventually included health plans, government, employers, consumer-advocacy groups
  - Provided thought leadership on industry-wide ROI of adopting electronic funds transfer (EFT) and electronic remittance advices (ERA)
    - Improves operational processes for providers and plans
    - Provides business intelligence to providers who use remittance data to support mission
    - Moves operating costs away from administrative inefficiency to patient care in the community
    - High value transactions
  - Government engagement provided important “weight” and balance to process
  - While initial costs are substantial, as innovation took hold stakeholders joined

Key Insights Gained (cont'd)

- **Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP)**
  - Facilitated multi-stakeholder participation in common standards harmonization effort across 900 organizations
  - Provided thought leadership for the technical direction of the HITSP harmonization process and outcomes
  - Developed Interoperability Specifications that provide healthcare community with instructions for using the standards selected to meet the requirements of specific use cases
  - Multiple constituencies that participated in a common effort

Key Insights Gained (Cont'd)

- **Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE)**
  - Drives the adoption of standards-based interoperability to improve patient care through innovation, profiling, testing, education, and collaboration
  - Open, consensus-based process to engage users, providers, and suppliers of health IT solutions to identify and solve interoperability problems
  - Fosters innovation and provides guidance for the consistent implementation of standards to relieve public burden created by the inaccessibility and inconsistency of health information, to improve the quality outcomes and enhance the performance of our healthcare system
  - Interoperability Showcase features IHE profiles in the area of clinical and administrative transactions (CORE operating rules for eligibility)

HIMSS' Enabling & Educational Tools

- HIMSS Annual Conference with total attendance of 27,500+
- Virtual Conference with 3,000+ attendees twice a year
- eLearning Academy learning management system
  - 16 courses and hundreds of 60-minute sessions
- Hundreds of webinars convened annually
- HIMSS Government Health IT Conference & Exhibition
- Continuing education offered
  - Medical and nursing professional development units approved by the Project Management Institute and Certified Professional in Healthcare Information and Management Systems (CPHIMS)
- ICD-10 Education
  - 5010 and ICD10 Symposium at HIMSS11
  - ICD10 Webinars in collaboration with X12 and others
  - Workgroup tools address multiple levels of need from provider CIO to provider IT management
- Interoperability Showcase
  - Live demonstrations showing standards and technology working seamlessly across diverse systems
  - Strong stakeholder support and uptake (providers, non-profits, vendors, government agencies, SDOs)

Success Factors

- **A Neutral Platform**
  - Cooperative non-profit entity arrangement that can reach the key stakeholders required to adopt operating rules under section 1104
  - To meet July 1, 2011 deadline HIMSS teamed with CAQH-CORE and NACHA
- **Education**
  - Persistent, wide audience, accessible, multiple webinars, high attendance, education modes
  - Collaboration with diverse healthcare community groups, associations and others
    - CMS for ICD-10 education
    - X12 for ICD-10 tools and programs
    - Others: vendors, providers, financial systems, health plans, hospital systems
- **Membership Support & Tools**
  - Strong volunteer involvement who are truly invested in outcomes
- **Recognition of Competing Priorities**
  - Providers are faced with multiple deadlines
    - Meaningful use, ICD10, 5010 compliancy, section 1104 and more
  - Business re-engineering impacts of health reform
    - Accountable Care Organizations, patient-centered medical home, other

Conclusion

- **HIMSS stands ready to support CMS**
  - We will develop robust resources for our members on the ACA, Section 1104 effort with significant education that is provider-focused
  - Our community also reaches many other stakeholders (vendors, banks, plans, other)
- **HIMSS will harness the power of its educational capability**
  - In our collaboration with CAQH/CORE and NACHA, we will position our educational capability to support CMS advancement of operating rules for eligibility and claim status
- **We appreciate this opportunity to discuss HIMSS's commitment to transforming the administrative efficiency of healthcare**

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