Panel 4:
Pharmacy Prior Authorization

Margaret Weiker, DSMO Chair

NCPDP Request

Health Care Services: Referral Certification and Authorization - specifically electronic prior authorization by prescribers for the pharmacy benefit.

NCPDP has worked for a long time on electronic transactions for the exchange of prior authorization functions between prescribers and processors for the pharmacy benefit. In 2011 industry work was begun again (open to any interested party) on prior authorization transactions when regulations were introduced in various states for PA. The regulations cite the use of the transactions as created by NCPDP. In July 2013, the electronic prior authorization transactions were published after the successful ballot. The NCPDP SCRIPT Standard version 2013071 contains the electronic prior authorization transactions for the pharmacy benefit environment. After much work by the industry, it is requested the ePA transactions be named for prior authorization functions in electronic prescribing for the pharmacy benefit. This does not impact the use of the ASC X12 transactions for authorization that are available for use under HIPAA. Precedence was set with the naming of both the Telecom and the X12 transactions for service billing functions. This would name the SCRIPT Prior Authorization transactions for the pharmacy benefit with the X12 transaction for pa for the medical benefit. History on the NCPDP work is available if needed.

Change Request 1189

DSMO Recommendation

To name the NCPDP SCRIPT Standard Version 2013101 Prior Authorization transactions only, for the exchange of prior authorization information between prescribers and processors for the pharmacy benefit.

DSMO Requests

The DSMO requests a recommendation letter be sent from NCVHS to the Secretary of HHS for the adoption of the NCPDP SCRIPT prior authorization transactions under HIPAA. Please note that the NCPDP SCRIPT Standard version 2013071 was modified to NCPDP SCRIPT Standard version **2013101** based on the NCPDP industry adjudication of the Change Request.

*It is important that the recommendation does not name all of the NCPDP SCRIPT Standard transactions, as this would impact other electronic prescribing functions