

Maryland Medicaid HIPAA 5010 Conversion Update- December 12, 2011

Recently you have heard the reference or references to HIPAA 5010. So what is 5010 and why do we need to prepare? 5010 is the latest version of the HIPAA transaction standards that are required to conduct electronic data exchange. If you currently file claims and/or verify patient eligibility, chances are you could be transmitting “these transactions” today. The 5010 transactions also include updates which will allow for ICD-10 codes which will be implemented in October 2013.

The Maryland Medicaid program successfully completed the changes necessary to support the required HIPAA 5010 standard transactions in May 2011. Since then, we have been working with our providers to explain the requirements of this new standard and to support their testing efforts in anticipation of the January 1, 2012 mandated implementation date. To date, only 23% of our electronic claims submitters have successfully completed testing necessary to meet the January 1, 2012 deadline. This represents over \$675,000 in monthly Medicaid claims billings as illustrated by the graph below.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced it would not initiate 5010 enforcement actions until March 31, 2012 due to the fact that so many providers were not ready to submit claims using the new standards. As a result of this information, the Maryland Medicaid Program has decided to provide **temporary support** for 4010 submissions through March 29, 2012 in addition to providers who either have or will become 5010 compliant by January 1, 2012. Support for 4010 submissions end after March 29th, and Maryland Medicaid will only process 5010 transactions beginning on April 1, 2012. 4010 submissions on or after this deadline will not be accepted and payments will not be made.

The Department will provide frequently asked questions and weekly updates of submitters pre-approved for 5010 on the eMedicaid portal. The portal can be accessed by visiting www.emdhealthchoice.org. We encourage providers that utilize the services of third party submitters to inquire into their 5010 testing status with Maryland Medicaid and confirm they are either testing or ready to submit 5010 transactions.

