



Wisconsin Compensation Rating Bureau

262-796-4540 • Fax 262-796-4400 • www.wcrb.org

P.O. Box 3080 • Milwaukee, WI 53201-3080

Located at 20700 Swenson Drive, Suite 100, Waukesha, WI 53186

GENERAL CIRCULAR LETTER 520—June 24, 2008

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU

WISCONSIN MEDICAL CALL FOR DATA

BACKGROUND:

The Wisconsin Insurance Alliance (WIA) has been engaged in the development of a medical fee schedule for workers compensation. The goal of the development and implementation of a fee schedule in Wisconsin is to positively impact medical expenses by reducing or slowing the rate of medical inflation, and do so without a negative impact to the availability and quality of medical care provided to injured workers.

In the past, implementation of a fee schedule via the Agreed Bill process has been unsuccessful due to opponents' position that the available statistical data and analysis did not support this undertaking.

RESOLUTION:

The WIA membership and the WCRB Governing Committee agree that efforts must continue in the analysis, and ultimate control, of rising workers' compensation medical costs. In an effort to further analyze medical billed and paid values, and to develop credible recommendations for a fee schedule, a call for this medical data is critical. As a result of this initiative, a Wisconsin Medical Call for Data and Wisconsin Medical Call Submission Instructions are being developed.

To obtain the most robust database possible, WCRB is requesting all members to participate in this voluntary call for transactional medical data.

The use of this data will be limited to the scope of this project. A confidentiality agreement has been signed by all parties concerned to not disclose any confidential information they receive to any other person, firm, or corporation, or use the confidential information for their own or any other party's benefit. All confidential information provided shall be and remain the property of the originating entity.

IMPLEMENTATION:

A two year period (2006/2007 service dates) of transactional medical data will be collected. A two year period of data will allow for analysis of billing and payment trends, and should provide the baseline needed for the establishment of a fee schedule. Data filings will be requested to be submitted in two stages:

- All medical transactional data for calendar year 2006 on October 31, 2008
- All medical transactional data for calendar year 2007 on November 30, 2008.

The following table provides a list of data elements and definitions that will be collected in this call. A final list of data elements will be published in the Wisconsin Medical Call Submission Instructions.

WISCONSIN MEDICAL CALL TRANSACTIONAL DATA ELEMENTS	
Data Element Name	Definition
Billing Provider FEIN	Federal Tax ID number of the billing provider.
Billing Provider Postal Code	Postal code of provider's mailing address of the billing provider.
Date Insurer Paid Bill	Date insurer or financially responsible party paid bill or received credit from provider.
Days/Units Billed	Number of services billed per line item in days or units.
DRG Code	Code indicating the diagnostic related group.
Facility Code	Code indicating type of facility where treatment was rendered.
Facility Postal Code	Postal code of facility's mailing address.
HCPCS Bill Procedure Code	HCPCS (Health Care Financing Administration's Common Procedure Coding System) code billed that identifies treatment rendered.
HCPCS Line Procedure Billed Code	HCPCS (Health Care Financing Administration's Common Procedure Coding System) code billed that identifies treatment rendered.
HCPCS Modifier Billed Code	HCPCS (Health Care Financing Administration's Common Procedure Coding System) code identifying special circumstances related to procedure billed.
HCPCS Principal Procedure Billed Code	HCPCS (Health Care Financing Administration's Common Procedure Coding System) code indicating the principal procedure billed.
ICD-9 CM Diagnosis Code	ICD-9-CM (International Classification Diseases, 9th Edition, Clinical Modification) code denoting the diagnosis of the work related injury or illness.
ICD-9 CM Principal Procedure Code	ICD-9-CM (International Classification Diseases, 9th Edition, Clinical Modification) code indicating the principal procedure rendered.
ICD-9 CM Procedure Code	ICD-9-CM (International Classification Diseases, 9th Edition, Clinical Modification) code identifying a procedure (other than principal procedure).
NDC Billed Code	NDC (National Drug Code) identifying drugs or pharmaceuticals billed.
Place of Service Line Code	Code indicating the place of service at line level.
Principal Diagnosis Code	Code indicating principal diagnosis.
Principal Procedure Date	Date the principal procedure was performed.
Revenue Billed Code	Code indicating specific cost center billed.
Service Bill Date(s) Range	Starting date and ending date on which service(s) were performed at the bill level.
Service Line Date(s) Range	Starting date and ending date on which service(s) were performed at the line level.
Total Recommended Payment Per Bill	Total recommended payment per bill after all clinical edits, PPO discounts, and other adjustments (e.g., certified database adjustment).
Total Recommended Payment Per Line	Total recommended payment per line after all clinical edits, PPO discounts, and other adjustments (e.g., certified database adjustment).
Total Charge Per Bill	Cumulative charge amount of all line items per bill.
Total Charge Per Line	Service charge per line item.
Insurer Claim Number	This would be a unique number assigned by the insurer to a claim (which might also be connected to an individual bill from the claim).
Unique Bill ID Number	Unique number assigned by an insurer to individual bills/invoices.

WCRB's role in this project is to provide documentation that will include a record layout and submission instructions (Wisconsin Medical Call Submission Instructions). We will also collect the data files and forward them to the WIA for editing, analysis, and any future fee schedule proposal.

WCRB's projected timeline of this project is as follows:

- 07-01-08:** Industry release of the Wisconsin Medical Call Submission Instructions (will be posted on www.wcrb.org under the "Products" tab, in the Public Products/Manuals and Instructions area)
- 10-31-08:** Due date for all medical transactional data for calendar year 2006
- 11-30-08:** Due date for all medical transactional data for calendar year 2007

WCRB is expecting that there will be a large volume of data being submitted as a result of this data call. To expedite the process, we are suggesting that as soon as the files are available they be sent to the WCRB for processing.

QUESTIONS:

Submission of data: Michael Mann, VP – IT, 262-796-4401; or michael.mann@wcrb.org.

All other: Kay Higgins, Unit Statistical Specialist, 262-796-4570; or kay.higgins@wcrb.org.