

Conference Call

HEALTH REFORM SOLVENCY IMPACT (E) SUBGROUP
Thursday, June 24, 2010

Summary Report

The Health Reform Solvency Impact (E) Subgroup met via conference call June 24, 2010, to continue considering Quality Improvement (QI – health care quality improvement expenses) comments that were summarized in the Excel spreadsheet titled, “Exposure Comments Summary June 24 call.xls” and to review a new version of the Blanks Proposal along with an alternative approach to the “Other QI Expenses” issue.

1. The Subgroup reviewed the new version of the Blanks Proposal with the following results:
 - Added an initial instruction to indicate that insurers with no business to be reported in Part 1, Columns 1 through 3 did not need to complete the supplement.
 - Indicated that the community benefit expenditures instruction for Part 1, Line 1.7 is open for comments.
 - Indicated that any comments for the “Exclude: Premium deficiency reserves” instruction for Part 2, Line 2.6 should be sent to the PPACA [Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act] Subgroup.
 - The Subgroup will consider reordering the QI General Definition paragraph.
 - Clarified that Section 3011 of PPACA will not be included as a reference in the QI General Definition.
 - Indicated that “transparency” in the final bullet under the QI General Definition would be open for comments.
 - The parenthetical “not just general case management” was deleted from the first bullet point under the Part 3, Column 1 instruction.
 - Changed the Column 4, Wellness & Health Promotion Activities instruction to read: “Expenses for programs that provide wellness and health promotion activities as defined above (e.g., face-to-face, telephonic or web-based interactions or other forms of communication), including...”
 - Deleted “recognize” from item 4 of the Column 5, HIT Expenses for Health Care Quality Improvements instruction.
 - Asked industry for estimates on the outstanding costs to be incurred on ICD-10 implementation.
 - Indicated that the “Expense Allocation” instructions of Part 3 are open for comment.
 - Corrected the reference in the Note to correctly read “24 hour medical professional hotlines” and added “non-clinical” to the parenthetical so it reads: “(e.g., answering non-clinical member questions).”
 - Indicated that “Accreditation fees” as a broadly excluded expense was still open for comment.
2. The Subgroup discussed the Alternative Option to QI “Other” Expense, with the following results:
 - A request for comment on the overall approach.
 - Indication that comments would be accepted on the “concurrent” utilization review efforts being excluded from QI.
 - Questions were raised about the employee incentives item in the list of generally excluded items from QI, absent proof from the insurer.
3. The next calls will occur on:
 - June 29, 2:00–4:00pm Central/3:00–5:00pm Eastern to address any current draft issues.
 - July 1, 2:00–4:00pm Central/3:00–5:00pm Eastern to incorporate any Blanks (E) Working Group recommendations and finalize the blanks proposal for sending on to the Financial Condition (E) Committee.

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