

Date: December 27, 2023

To: Hospital Chief Financial Officers and Case Mix Liaisons

From: Claudine Williams, Principal Deputy Director, HDMI

Subject: **FY 2024 Q2 Data Forum Follow-up**

Thanks to all who participated in the FY 2024 Q2 Data Forum held on December 15, 2023. Below is a summary of what was discussed and next steps.

## Announcements

### Quality Update

Staff provided updates on quality-related data initiatives (slide 6-7). Staff reviewed the eCQM measures that will be required or optional for the upcoming calendar years and the timeline for reporting the measures (slides 8-10). Additionally staff reviewed the HSCRC hospital wide readmission and mortality reporting requirements for calendar year 2024 (Slide 11).

### CDS-A Reports

Staff reminded all participants that the CDS-A Report is available on the CRISP Portal (slides 14-15). This report allows hospitals to review growth in the cost of outpatient infusion and chemo- therapy drug utilization for outlier dosage units based on 3rd Monthly case mix data in CRISP. The expectation is that hospitals will use this information to correct errors prior to submission of Quarterly case mix data. **Please be aware, hospitals will be subject to fines if any material error is found in a hospital's CDS-A audit.**

### Data Forum Survey

Staff reminded all meeting participants to complete the survey in Survey Monkey. The link was sent on Friday, December 15. Please use this opportunity to provide the HSCRC staff feedback on the data forums. If you did not receive a link to the survey, please contact [hscrc@hmetrix.com](mailto:hscrc@hmetrix.com).

### Requesting financial data extensions

Staff reviewed the process for requesting financial data extensions (slide 18-20). Hospitals must timely submit Cost Reports, Audited Financial Statements, and Unaudited Financial Statements. A 30-day extension for Audited Annual Reports is allowed only in emergencies. Late or inaccurate submissions may incur fines up to \$1,000 per day.

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## New Denial Template

Staff reviewed the new denial template (slides 22-25). Hospitals report quarterly denials of services by third-party payers within 30 days after each fiscal quarter. Annual reconciliation with Annual Report Schedules RE and RE-R is mandatory. The new user-friendly template for denial reporting includes updated codes and drop-down menus. Hospitals must use it for FY 2024, Quarter 2 data by January 31, 2024, for submission to HSCRC.

Hospital staff had a question in regards to the special audit:

Q. In the special audit, hospitals have identified an issue with netting numbers for recovery and denials in separate GL departments. How can we align these categories for effective audit purposes? Additionally, for the extensive data across multiple hospitals, is it permissible to map drop-down selections based on criteria for larger reporting datasets?

A. There is no need to align the categories with the special audit because it looks at totals (1 number) and is not broken down into the recoveries vs denials.

## DCFA Reporting Update

Hospitals must annually report their financial assistance activities. Changes for FY 2023 require detailed data on applicants, charges, patient demographics, amounts owed, and patient location. Contact Wayne Nelms at [wayne.nelms@maryland.gov](mailto:wayne.nelms@maryland.gov) for questions.

## Public Use Statewide Data

Staff reviewed the various casemix statewide datasets (Basic, Grouped, Revisit, ECMAD, Market Shift, Weight Creation and Development, UCC) that are collected from the hospitals and the best uses for the case mix data (Slides 29-33). Staff will be requesting feedback on the contents of the public use file in the survey, as well as convening a workgroup in the coming months.

## Uncompensated Care (UCC) Data Collection Update

Staff provided an update on current UCC data collection and processing to date. Staff also discussed DSR and edit report updates for FY 2024 Q2. Staff also reviewed notable data submission errors that were observed from the FY 24 Q1 data. Additionally, staff reviewed the UCC Data preparation and submission process recommendations (slides 35-39).

## Data Processing Vendor Update

Mary Pohl, representing hMetrix and Burton Policy, reported on data processing updates. Mary reminded hospitals to submit monthly and quarterly production data (data that is grouped and used by the HSCRC) to the "Submit folder" in RDS to process the monthly data. hMetrix has instituted automated logic that can determine the type of file submitted. For test data, hospitals should submit to the "Test folder" in RDS. The Test Site is always available for testing (for instance for a new hospital coming on board or a system conversion (slides 42-44).

## Data Repository Vendor Update

Staff reminded participants of the recent updates to the Repository Data Submission (RDS) site, including mapped drive functionality, SFTP capability, and the password reset portal (slides 46-47).

## Upcoming Workgroups

Staff announced information for two workgroups. The Performance Measurement Workgroup and the Revisions to Public Use Files workgroup (Slides 49-50). For more information on the Performance Measurement Workgroup you can visit online at <https://hsrc.maryland.gov/Pages/hsrc-workgroup-performance-measurement.aspx>. If you would like to participate in the Revisions to Public Use Files workgroup you can reach out to Curtis Wills at ([curtis.wills@maryland.gov](mailto:curtis.wills@maryland.gov)).

## Next Meeting

The next Quarterly Data Forum Meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2024. If you have any agenda items, please send them to Oscar, Curtis, or myself by March 1, 2024. If you have any questions or concerns about the topics discussed above, please contact Claudine Williams ([Claudine.Williams@maryland.gov](mailto:Claudine.Williams@maryland.gov)), Oscar Ibarra ([Oscar.Ibarra@maryland.gov](mailto:Oscar.Ibarra@maryland.gov)), or Curtis Willis ([Curtis.Wills@maryland.gov](mailto:Curtis.Wills@maryland.gov)).

## Case Mix Weights and Grouper Transition Update

- **Case Mix Weights and Market Shift (RY 2024):** IP Weights 39; OP Weights: 3.17; IP weights use CY 2022 (12 months); OP weights use CY 2022 – Q1 CY 2023 (15 months). Weights for FY 2024 to be available in the first quarter of 2023. These weights are applied to the following policies:
  - CY 2023 12 Months Marketshift
  - RY 2022 ICC Volume
- These are the updated grouper versions that will be applied to MHAC, RRIP, QBR for RY 2026.
- **MHAC/RRIP/QBR (CY 2024):** APR DRG and PPC version 41; current CGS version. **Note:** RY 2026 policies begin January 1, 2024, in most cases.