Experiences from a Voluntarily CORE-certified Clearinghouse and Healthcare Provider

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Tuesday, November 13, 2012
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm ET

Operating Rule Implementation Topics:
Working with Trading Partners

Participating in Today’s Interactive Event

- Download a copy of today’s presentation
- The phones will be muted throughout the session, however you may directly communicate at any time with today’s panelists via the webex
  - Submit your question directly through the Q&A pane located at the bottom right hand corner of your screen
- Panelists will address audience questions during the last 15-20 minutes of the program

Session Topics

- Introduction and Overview
- Administrative Simplification: Affordable Care Act (ACA) Section 1104
- Implementing Mandated Eligibility and Claim Status Operating Rules
  - Collaboration With Trading Partners
  - CAQH CORE Industry Implementation Support
- The Benefits of Provider Adoption: A Real-life Story
- Perspectives from a Voluntarily CORE-certified Clearinghouse
- Question and Answer

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Learning Objectives

Attendees will:

• Discover necessary steps and best practices to successfully implement the Federally mandated operating rules
• Hear how one healthcare provider is benefiting from their trading partner’s adoption of CAQH CORE Operating Rules
• Learn how health plans, providers and clearinghouses are working together to conform with mandated operating rules, from the viewpoint of an early adopter CORE-certified clearinghouse
• Have an opportunity to ask their questions during Q&A

CAQH® and Its Initiatives

Multi-stakeholder collaboration of over 130 participating organizations that is developing industry-wide operating rules, built on existing standards, to streamline administrative transactions. CORE® participants maintain eligibility/benefits data for over 150 million lives, or approximately 75% of the commercially insured, plus Medicare and some Medicaid.

An industry utility that replaces multiple health plan paper processes for collecting provider data with a single, electronic, uniform data-collection system (i.e., credentialing). More than 1 million providers self-report their information to UPD and over 650 organizations access the system, including a range of public and private entities.

An objective industry forum for monitoring business efficiency in healthcare. Tracking progress and savings associated with adopting electronic solutions for administrative transactions across the industry.

CAQH® and Its Initiatives

Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange

• A multi-stakeholder collaboration established in 2005
• Mission: To build consensus among healthcare industry stakeholders on a set of operating rules that facilitate administrative interoperability between providers and health plans
  – Enable providers to submit transactions from the system of their choice (vendor agnostic) and quickly receive a standardized response
  – Facilitate administrative and clinical data integration
• Recognized healthcare operating rule author by NCVHS and HHS
What are Operating Rules?

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) defines operating rules as "the necessary business rules and guidelines for the electronic exchange of information that are not defined by a standard or its implementation specifications."

- Operating rules address gaps in standards, help refine the infrastructure that supports electronic data exchange, and recognize interdependencies among transactions; they do not duplicate standards.
- Operating rules and standards work in unison; current healthcare operating rules build upon a range of standards – healthcare specific (e.g., ASC X12) and industry neutral (e.g., OASIS, W3C, ACH CCD+) – and support the national HIT agenda.
- Operating rules encourage an interoperable network and, thereby, are vendor agnostic.

Operating Rules: Key Components

- Transmission standards and formats
- Response timing standards
- Error resolution
- Exception processing
- Rights and responsibilities of all parties
- Security
- Liabilities

ACA Section 1104:
Mandated Eligibility and Claim Status Operating Rules

Timeline and Compliance

1. Jack uses his mobile device to log onto Dr. Summa’s secure website. Jack checks appointment availability, chooses his desired slot, updates his insurance information, and sees that his insurance was verified.
2. Dr. Summa’s practice management system re-verifies Jack’s insurance and determines if there is any secondary coverage.
3. Dr. Summa’s office sends Jack an appointment confirmation email which indicates fee/cost.
4. Jack arrives at Dr. Summa’s office and registers. Any changes to his eligibility, benefits and payment requirements are identified and noted in the electronic health record (EHR) system and/or PMS.
5. After examining Jack, Dr. Summa determines that he needs a referral to Dr. Zippa, a cardiologist.
6. Dr. Summa’s EHR submits an electronic referral request and obtains an authorization. Dr. Summa electronically signs the EHR, which creates a real-time transaction to the office billing system which determines if edits are needed.
7. The edited electronic claim is sent to Jack’s health plan with validated diagnosis and procedure coding. The claim is adjudicated and within seconds Dr. Summa’s office receives an electronic payment and remittance advice.
8. At checkout, the office staff explains the charges to Jack, answers questions and accepts his payment. If the claim had been denied, the staff would have worked with Jack and/or Dr. Summa to make necessary corrections and resubmit the corrected claim before Jack left the office.
9. He also receives a message on his mobile device from Dr. Zippa inviting him to make an appointment.
10. Jack receives a monthly email from his health plan summarizing the services he has received from all of his providers. The summary is as easy to read as his credit card bill.
11. Through the use of utilities, standards, operating rules and automated work flow, Jack, Dr. Summa and Dr. Zippa all have experienced reduced costs and increased efficiency and Jack’s quality of care has improved.
Administrative Simplification: ACA Section 1104

- Section 1104 of the ACA (H.R.3590)
  - Establishes new requirements for administrative transactions that will improve the utility of the existing HIPAA transactions and reduce administrative costs
  - Requires all HIPAA covered entities be compliant with applicable HIPAA standards and associated operating rules

- The first set of mandated operating rules for Eligibility and Claim Status has been adopted into Federal regulation: 49 Days Until Compliance Date
  - December 2011, CMS adopted CMS-0032-IFC as a Final Rule: Industry implementation efforts underway for the January 1, 2013 effective date
  - Adopts Phase I and II CAQH CORE Operating Rules for the Eligibility & Claim Status transactions, except for rule requirements pertaining to Acknowledgements*

- Highlights CORE Certification is voluntary; further defines relationship between standards and operating rules and analysis of ROI from operating rules implementation

The complete set of CAQH CORE Eligibility & Claim Status Operating Rules are available free of charge HERE.

ACA Mandated Operating Rules Compliance Dates:
Required for all HIPAA Covered Entities

- Eligibility for health plan
- Claims status transactions
- Electronic funds transfer (EFT) transactions
- Health care payment and remittance advice (ERA) transactions
- Health claims or equivalent encounter information
- Enrollment and disenrollment in a health plan
- Health plan premium payments
- Referral certification and authorization
- Health claims attachments

ACA Federal Compliance Requirements:
Highlights & Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Area</th>
<th>HIPAA Mandated Implementation</th>
<th>ACA-mandated Health Plan Certification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>First Date</td>
<td>Compliance Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Who: All HIPAA covered entities</td>
<td>Who: Health plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Who: Health plans</td>
<td>Who: Health plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount: Due to HITECH, penalties for HIPAA non-compliance have increased, now to $1.5 million per entity per year</td>
<td>Amount: Fine (amount equals $1 per covered life) until certification is complete; provides for failure to comply cannot exceed an amount equal to $200 per covered life or $40 per covered life for deliberate misrepresentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Mandated Eligibility & Claim Status Operating Rules:

Scope

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Rule</th>
<th>Mandated Eligibility &amp; Claim Status Operating Rules</th>
<th>Voluntary Eligibility &amp; Claim Status Operating Rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses</td>
<td>CAQH CORE Eligibility &amp; Claim Status Operating Rules</td>
<td>CAQH CORE Eligibility &amp; Claim Status Operating Rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Content: Eligibility</td>
<td>Need to drive further industry value in transaction processing</td>
<td>Need to drive further industry value in transaction processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure: Eligibility and Claim Status</td>
<td>Industry needs for common/accessible documentation</td>
<td>Industry needs for common/accessible documentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Industry-wide goals for architecture/performance/interoperability</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please Note: In the Final Rule for Administrative Simplification: Adoption of Operating Rules for Eligibility for a Health Plan and Health Care Claim Status Transactions, CORE 150 and CORE 151 are not included for adoption. HHS is not requiring compliance with any operating rules related to acknowledgment, the Interim Final Rule.*

Mandated EFT & ERA Operating Rules:

**January 2014 Compliance Deadline**

- The second set of operating rules has been proposed for Federal regulation
  - August 2012: CMS published an Interim Final Rule with Comment, CMS-0028-IFC, which adopts Phase III CAQH CORE Operating Rules for the EFT and Health Care Payment and Remittance Advice (ERA) transactions, except for rule requirements pertaining to Acknowledgements
  - The interim final rule comment period closed on October 9, 2012
    - During the comment period, CAQH CORE developed a model comment letter for organizations to use as appropriate and submitted a CAQH CORE comment letter
- Next Steps
  - For CAQH CORE:
    - Develop CAQH CORE resources to support industry implementation of the CAQH CORE EFT & ERA Operating Rules (in progress), including:
      - FAQs based on lessons learned in CORE rule writing and questions received through CAQH CORE Request Process
      - Drafting Analysis & Planning Guide for Adopting the CAQH CORE EFT & ERA Operating Rules
      - With CAQH CORE-authorized testing entity Edifecs, create site beta and alpha Voluntary CORE Certification Test Site for January 2013 (volunteer to beta test?)
    - If you have suggestions for additional implementation tools, please email core@caqh.org
  - For HHS/CMS: Review comments on the IFC and provide notification of Final Rule

Third Set of Mandated Operating Rules:

**January 2016 Compliance Deadline**

- Remaining operating rule mandate, effective January 2016, will address the following transactions:
  - Health claims or equivalent encounter information
  - Enrollment and disenrollment in a health plan
  - Health plan premium payments
  - Referral, certification and authorization
  - Claims attachment
- September 2012: Secretary of HHS designated CAQH CORE as author for all remaining ACA mandated operating rules
  - CAQH CORE will use its open process to develop a set of draft rules for consideration to fulfill the third set of Federally mandated operating rules; research and planning underway for rule development and activities like public surveys
  - All CORE Guiding principles will be followed, e.g. build on existing standards, align with other Federal health IT initiatives, address content and infrastructure
  - Schedule to be issued; Connectivity Subgroup will be one of the first Subgroups to launch
Implementing Mandated Eligibility and Claim Status Operating Rules

Providers, health plans and clearinghouses work together in a variety of ways to exchange transaction data. The scope of an entity’s mandated operating rules implementation project will depend upon the electronic data flows between trading partners; understand your agreements. Vendors play a crucial role in enabling provider clients to realize the benefits of industry adoption of CAQH CORE Operating Rules; engage them.

Implementing Mandated Operating Rules: The Importance of Trading Partner Collaboration

Streamlined Administrative Data Exchange

Vendor Agnostic Rules

- Providers, health plans and clearinghouses work together in a variety of ways to exchange transaction data.
- The scope of an entity’s mandated operating rules implementation project will depend upon the electronic data flows between trading partners; understand your agreements.
- Vendors play a crucial role in enabling provider clients to realize the benefits of industry adoption of CAQH CORE Operating Rules; engage them.

Implementing Mandated Operating Rules: The Vendor’s Role in Provider Adoption

All HIPAA covered entities must implement Federally mandated operating rules:

- Voluntarily CORE-certified vendors can accelerate provider adoption of mandated operating rules, drive ROI and end-to-end interoperability across a trading partner network.
- Improves data flow consistently in varied settings that use various vendors.
- Providers realize documented benefits* of implementing CAQH CORE Operating Rules:
  - Reduction in claims denials of 10-12%.
  - Increased electronic verifications by 24%.
  - Improve vendor connectivity turnaround times.
- Is your Practice Management System (PMS) in conformance? Providers must engage vendors to ensure their systems can provide the benefits that operating rules offer!
- Voluntary CORE Certification informs the industry that a vendor’s product operates in accordance with the CAQH CORE Operating Rules.
Are You Ready for Trading Partner Testing?

- Testing with your trading partners is a critical aspect to making your operating rules implementation a success, as well as that of those entities with which you exchange HIPAA transactions.
- Given the Federal deadline for the 1st set of operating rules is January 1, 2013, CAQH CORE is now hosting a website to highlight those organizations in trading partner testing.
- HIPAA covered entities (or other key IT systems that support them, such as Practice Management Systems) can quickly list that their organization is ready to test with its trading partners.
- Those entities using the website that are voluntarily CORE-certified have their CORE Certification Seal listed, given such entities already are using the CORE rules in daily exchange and thus able to test with their trading partners.
- The website can be found at CORE Partner Testing.

If you are ready, add your organization today!

Polling Question #1
Trading Partner Readiness

Please select the answer that best describes the status of your trading partners readiness to conform with eligibility and claim status operating rules:

- All partners are currently conforming
- Some partners conform but not all
- We have had conversations about the importance of adopting operating rules, but I do not know when they will be ready to handle CORE conformant transactions
- No knowledge of trading partner status
- Not applicable (my organization does not create, transmit or use eligibility or claim status transactions)

Supporting Industry Operating Rule Implementation:
Voluntary CORE Certification

- Since its inception, CAQH CORE has offered a voluntary CORE Certification to health plans, vendors, clearinghouses, and providers.
- Voluntary CORE Certification:
  - Provides verification that your IT systems or product operates in accordance with the federally mandated operating rules
  - Encourages trading partners to work together on data flow and content needs
  - Facilitates maximum ROI when all entities in data exchange conform
- Key guiding principles of CAQH CORE program:
  - Certification and testing are done by separate entities: CAQH CORE-authorized testing vendors build web-based test platform, and site is alpha/beta tested by CORE Participants.
  - Multi-stakeholder CORE process approves Test Suite for each rule set, including test scripts by stakeholder type.
  - Does not replace internal or trading partner testing
- Learn more about voluntary CORE Certification here.
Supporting Industry Operating Rule Inquiries:
The CAQH CORE Request Process

CAQH CORE has responded to over 650+ inquiries from operating rule implementers; access CAQH CORE’s free on-line repository of FAQs.

Types of Requests
- Certification of rule requirements
- Suggest new requirements, or additional/modified requirements
- Remove or change existing requirements
- Technical interoperability/infrastructure
- Evaluate possible alignment with other operating rules

Source of Requests
- CAQH CORE Request Process
- Direct contact from providers/committers

Substantive/Major Change
- Changes to rule requirements
- New rule ideas

Evaluation of Request
- Source of Requests
- By CAQH CORE

Formal CAQH CORE Operating Rules Development Process

Review of Proposed Change By
- Relevant Entities
  - CMS, ASC X12, NACHA
  - Modifications analyzed by CAQH CORE staff

Non-substantive/Minor Change
- Typographical/grammatical errors
- Clarifications or new FAQ
- Notice of typographical/grammatical errors
- Notice of typographical/grammatical errors

Alignment with Federal Efforts
- New versions of standards, e.g. v5010

Incoming Requests
- By CAQH CORE
- CAQH CORE staff

CAQH CORE Implementation Tools

- The Analysis & Planning Guide for Adopting the CAQH CORE Eligibility & Claim Status Operating Rules provides guidance for Project Managers, Business Analysts, System Analysts, Architects, and other project staff to complete systems analysis and planning.
- Phase I & Phase II CORE Certification and Master Test Suites:
  - Initially developed for voluntary CORE Certification; same concepts; provides guidance on the stakeholder types to which the rules apply and working with trading partners.
- CAQH CORE Trading Partner Testing Readiness
  - Organizations that are ready to test operating rules implementation with trading partners are encouraged to add a contact to the new page highlighting readiness for the January 1, 2013 Eligibility and Claim Status Operating Rules implementation deadline.
- General/Interpretation Questions:
  - Information requests can be submitted to the CAQH CORE Request Process at CORE@caqh.org
  - All responses complete formal review process by CAQH CORE experts based on request type/complexity.

CAQH CORE Learning Resources

- Access Past Education Sessions
  - Presentations and recordings of sessions held with education partners, i.e., WEDI, provider/payer associations, Medicaid workgroups, etc. and guest speakers from entities that have implemented the rules.
- Upcoming Free CAQH CORE Education Events:
  - CAQH CORE Open Mic Session “Ask Any Question” Tuesday, November 20, 2012 | 2:00pm – 3:00pm ET (CMS OESS attendance)
  - CAQH CORE and ASC X12 Webinar: “Implementing Eligibility and Claim Status Operating Rules: An In-Depth Look at Operating Rules and X12 Standards” November 28, 2012 | 2:00PM ET - 3:30PM ET
Polling Question #2
Operating Rule Implementation Challenges

What is your organization’s biggest operating rule implementation challenge?

- Ensuring conformance of internal systems and/or those of vendors/clearinghouses
- Overall organizational readiness to comply by January 2013
- Vendor readiness
- Understanding operating rule detailed requirements
- Availability of skilled and knowledgeable resources

The Benefits of Provider Adoption:
A Real-life Story

Leann DiDomenico
Administrative Director
Performance Pediatrics

Performance Pediatrics:
Practice Overview

Performance Pediatrics
- Primary care pediatric “micro practice” in Plymouth, MA
- Part of an Independent Physician Association (IPA)

Electronic Clearinghouse Transactions
- Eligibility: submits 157 per month (about 2/3 of all appointments)
- ERA: 75% of remittances*
- EFT: 65% of payments*

Practice Management System
installed clearinghouse transactions with Performance Pediatrics PMS

*CAQH CORE Operating Rule conformance testing has not yet been conducted for clearinghouse ERA and EFT transactions
Performance Pediatrics’ Experience:
Before Working with a Clearinghouse

- Manual Administrative Processing
  - Eligibility
    - Checked payer websites to manually verify eligibility for each patient
  - Claims
    - Created each claim manually then posted manually for electronic submission or had to drop to paper and mailed them
    - Long delays between submission and receiving responses
    - Identify denials faster and can fix and resubmit quickly
  - Remittances
    - Manual posting
    - Manual reconciliation with payment

- Operational Results
  - Administrative time equal to one FTE spent on claims and remittance processing
  - Delays in cash flow with slow processes
  - Higher risk of errors with manual processes

Performance Pediatrics’ Experience:
After Working with a Clearinghouse

- Electronic Exchange of Administrative Transactions with a CAQH CORE-certified Clearinghouse (InstaMed)
  - Submit and receive clearinghouse transactions with CAQH CORE-certified payers by leveraging InstaMed’s integration with our practice management system

- Benefits Realized
  - Obtain detailed eligibility information in real-time
  - Receive payer payments weeks faster to bill and collect remaining patient payment responsibility (i.e., deductibles) sooner
  - Freed up front desk resources to focus on other areas
  - Continue to improve patient satisfaction by being able to quickly identify the patient responsibility in the response
  - Easy payer payment reconciliation with the EFT trace number included in the ERA

- Operational Results
  - Saving 40+ hours of administrative work per week
  - Receiving payer payments two to three times faster
  - Reduced days in A/R by 40 to 70%
About InstaMed

InstaMed’s Healthcare Payments Network transforms the business of healthcare by connecting healthcare providers, payers and patients for highly secure and mission-critical communications, administrative transactions and payments

- Powers healthcare payments for 200,000+ providers nationally, e.g. 400+ hospitals and 100+ billing services
- Integrated with 40+ PMS
- Processes $30 billion in healthcare payments annually at a rate of $1,000+ per second

Early Adopter of CAQH CORE Operating Rules
- One of the first Phase I and Phase II CORE-certified clearinghouses
- Supporter of CAQH CORE Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) Operating Rules

CAQH CORE Participants Organization
- Member of the CAQH CORE EFT and ERA Subgroup
- Participant in CAQH CORE measurement studies

Value of a Multi-Stakeholder Network

- Leveraging a network delivers automated interoperability, allowing all stakeholders to connect easily while enabling efficient electronic data exchange and connectivity
- CAQH CORE Operating Rules enable interoperability; multi-stakeholder participation helps to drive the ROI

Network Value of a Multi-Stakeholder Network

Trading Relationship Models for Providers

- Clearinghouses and PMS vendors play a crucial role in helping provider clients meet Federally mandated Operating Rules
  - Large providers work directly with their vendors to achieve end-to-end interoperability
  - Small providers rely on their vendors to meet administrative simplification goals
Trading Relationship Models for Payers

- Health plans work with clearinghouses in a variety of ways

Trading Relationship Models with InstaMed

- InstaMed can serve as a clearinghouse for providers that have not adopted the operating rules
- InstaMed can integrate with a PMS to allow providers to access additional patient financial and covered services transaction data specified in the eligibility operating rule mandate

Trading Relationship Models with InstaMed

- InstaMed can serve as the clearinghouse for payers that outsource infrastructure and connectivity operating rule requirements
Working With InstaMed:

**Practice Management Systems (PMS)**

- Improve integration
  - Simplify and accelerate development projects
  - Accelerate integration with other systems that follow the CAQH CORE Operating Rules (previously it was difficult for a PMS to build connections)
- Generate more revenue
  - Supporting transactions that follow the CAQH CORE Operating Rules is a differentiator among vendors
- Enhance product offering and customer satisfaction
  - With expanded integration, allow customers to access more data in a standardized format
  - Simplify customer workflow seamlessly
- Results
  - Increase sales by 25% by offering more integration capabilities
  - Deploy application with additional transactions in a compressed timeframe
  - Submit cleaner claims and receive fewer rejections for customers, accelerating payments by 1-2 weeks
  - Save customers 40 hours per month by managing transactions electronically

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Working With InstaMed:

**Payers**

- Reduce administrative costs to meet reform mandates
  - Reduce call center volume of eligibility, claim and claim status inquiries from providers
  - Save time on provider claim rejection responses by receiving cleaner claims
  - Access all data from any web-based computer
  - Generate standard claim and eligibility responses automatically with real-time access to data
  - Reduce print and mail costs by delivering ERA/EFT
- Increase provider network satisfaction
  - Send fewer rejected claim responses to providers
  - Allow providers to have access to more data
  - Address provider network’s challenge of identifying and collecting member responsibility
  - Pay providers faster and simplify reconciliation by delivering ERA/EFT
  - Enable providers to use a single, standardized format for all payers
- Improve bottom line
  - Reduce operational costs by 40%-60%

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InstaMed Lessons Learned:

**Working with Operating Rules**

- One Network
  - Enable all stakeholders to manage data exchange easily
- Integration and usability
  - Enable users to log in to one system for all administrative transactions and data
  - Interoperability simplifies day-to-day processes for all stakeholders
- Security and reliability
  - Leverage a secure, private cloud network to ensure maximum uptime including mirrored data centers with real-time data replication
  - Ensure network regularly undergoes independent audits of technical, administrative and physical layers of security and regulative compliance
  - Ask vendors to prove they have complete redundancy and regularly test the failover
  - Ask vendors to describe data center monitoring and alerting procedures
  - For more tips to ensure your data is protected in the cloud, visit: [http://www.instamed.com/blog/true-availability-best-practices-on-the-cloud](http://www.instamed.com/blog/true-availability-best-practices-on-the-cloud)
InstaMed Lessons Learned:
Working with Operating Rules

- Implementation
  - Understand the scope of your clearinghouse's conformance with CAQH CORE Operating Rules
  - Treat it as a project – roll it out
  - Integrate as an essential part into the business process
  - Consider human factor from a training perspective
  - Focus on the top 10 payers with the most volume
  - Monitor the effectiveness and usage

- Tip: Engage with your vendor and/or clearinghouse to map out a timeline of when they will support the mandated CAQH CORE Eligibility and Claim Status Operating Rules

Question & Answer

Appendix
Mandated Eligibility & Claim Status Operating Rules

CAQH CORE Eligibility & Claim Status Operating Rules were initially developed in two phases; for ease of use the rules are presented here by transaction addressed and rule type rather than by phase.

- Rules Addressing the ASC X12 270/271 Eligibility & Benefits Transactions
  - Data Content Related Rules
    - CAQH CORE 154: Data Content Related Rules for Eligibility
    - CAQH CORE 158: Normalizing Patient Last Name Rule for Eligibility
  - Infrastructure Related Rules
    - CAQH CORE 150: Batch Acknowledgements Rule for Eligibility (999)*
    - CAQH CORE 151: Real Time Acknowledgements Rule for Eligibility (999)*

- Rules Addressing the ASC X12 276/277 Claim Status Transactions
  - CAQH CORE 250: 276/277 Claim Status Infrastructure Rule*

*NOTE: In the Final Rule for Administrative Simplification: Adoption of Operating Rules for Eligibility for a Health Plan and Health Care Claim Status Transaction, requirements pertaining to use of Acknowledgements are NOT included for adoption. Although HHS is not requiring compliance with any operating rule requirements related to Acknowledgements, the Final Rule does note "we are addressing the important role acknowledgements play in EDI by strongly encouraging the industry to implement the acknowledgement requirements in the CAQH CORE rules as an adopter metric."

CAQH CORE EFT & ERA Operating Rules: Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>High-Level Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Uniform Use of CARCs and RARCs (835) Rule</strong></td>
<td>Identifies a minimum set of four CAQH CORE defined Business Scenarios with a maximum of 5000 CARC and RARC code combinations that can be applied to conveying details of the claim denial or payment to the provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EFT Enrollment Data Rule</strong></td>
<td>Identifies a minimum set of standard data elements for EFT enrollment. Outlines a straw template for paper and electronic collection of the data elements. Requires health plan to offer electronic EFT enrollment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ERA Enrollment Data Rule</strong></td>
<td>Similar to the EFT Enrollment Data Rule.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EFT &amp; ERA Reassociation (CCD+835) Rule</strong></td>
<td>Addresses provider receipt of the CAQH CORE required Minimum ACH CCD+ Data Elements required for reassociation. Addresses elapsed time between the sending of the v5010 835 and the CCD+. Requirements for resolving late/missing EFT and ERA transactions. Recognition of the role of NACHA Operating Rules for financial institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Care Claim Payment/Advice (835) Infrastructure Rule</strong></td>
<td>Specifies use of the CAQH CORE Master Companion Guide Template for the flow and format of such legislature. Requires entities to support the Phase II CAQH CORE Connectivity Rule. Includes batch Acknowledgement requirements. Defines a dual delivery (paper/electronic) to facilitate provider transition to electronic remits.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Complete CAQH CORE EFT & ERA Operating Rules Set available HERE.