

DHS Business Decision

Title: PHP Dental Care Organization – Encounter Data 837 Dental Submissions

Background: While conducting a pilot test for the 837 Dental Encounter, OMAP's Office of Information Systems (OIS) discovered the oral cavity designation mapping was automatically plugging a tooth number and surface (33A), even if the provider had put in a valid tooth number and surface on the claim form. The 33A designation is not a HIPAA compliant data element. OMAP Business and OIS immediately began discussions to resolve this issue. DHS also needed to address some of the current data elements that were being sent by providers that were no longer HIPAA compliant. i.e. 33, upper right (UR), upper left (UL), lower left (LL), and lower right (LR) quadrants.

Decision: If any oral cavity designation is present in the claim and there is a valid tooth number and/or surface, that tooth number and/or surface will be used in claims processing against MMIS edits.

If any oral cavity designation is present, but the tooth number and surface are blank, the blank tooth number and surface will be moved to the master claim record and then allow the claim to processing against MMIS edits.

No other programming for oral cavity designations will be changed at this time.

Encounter data processing table for dental procedure codes was updated to allow processing of HIPAA Compliant 837 Dental Transactions. The system will now process only ADA valid tooth numbers 1-32, and only ADA valid tooth surfaces. If the provider has a procedure that has a valid tooth number, but no tooth surface, the tooth surface should be left blank and then allow it to edit against current MMIS edits. If the procedure does not have a valid tooth number or surface, it is recommended that the both be left blank and allowed to edit against current MMIS edits.

Effective Date: March 22, 2004