270/271 eligibility changes

DHS is pleased to announce the completion of several of the changes requested by our provider community that will affect batch processing.

Batch transactions Bulletin

The changes described below were implemented for the 270/271 batch eligibility transactions effective July 6, 2006. You will notice that many of them are the same changes that we recently implemented in Real-Time transactions, however there are a couple of additional changes.

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DHS' batch processing system is currently truncating to the last byte/character of the first name and to the last byte/character of the last name. With the new batch updates, we will return the entire name, as field length allows.

OMAP currently returns your trace number truncated to 10 bytes. With our implementation, we will increase the trace number allowance to 30 bytes.

You will no longer receive the "inquiry date" as the "end date" of eligibility/TPR/enrollment. For most situations, DHS does not return future dates, so if the there is no actual termination date, no date will be returned. If we know that the client's eligibility/TPR/enrollment ends on or before the transaction date, then we will give you the end date.

We are now excluding ineligible segments from return on the transaction unless there is nothing else to return. If the client has no current eligibility, then you will receive only the most current line of ineligibility.

When CMS developed the 270/271 transactions, there was no Medicare Part D drug coverage. At the request of our providers who need to know if a client has Medicare Part D, DHS reviewed the Implementation Guide for a possible solution. We currently return a client's insurance coverage in the 2110C EB04, which does not include Part D as it does Part A and B. So to indicate Part D coverage, DHS has included EB03 as "88" and EB04 as "OT" when the client also has Medicare Part D coverage (see revised 270/271 Companion Guides).

Previously, if the date-of-birth information in our system was not compliant, the 271 response file failed during the creation process. To prevent this failure in the future, the client's date of birth will not be returned (when non-compliant data is present), so the entire demographics segment will not be returned. This allows us to still return eligibility information by avoiding what was causing the response file to fail.



Due to our problems processing large outbound files, we will not be able to continue returning 12 months of eligibility at one time. Previously, when an inquiry was received, we returned 12 months of eligibility regardless of the time frame requested. The revised process will be to return 90 days of eligibility based on the beginning date in the inquiry. If you desire 12 months of eligibility, modify your request by changing the "begin date" and "end date" to cover the quarter needed. You will need to make four separate requests to get a year's worth of data.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the DHS EDI Support Team at either 503-947-5347 or 1-800-422-5047 (Option 2) or via e-mail at dhs.hipaatesting@state.or.us.