

Clean Claims
2nd Discussion and Action
Implementation Date for Common Edit Set

The question before the BOD is:

“CMS strongly oppose any attempt by any third party to delay or repeal the implementation period of Colorado law requiring the use of a common claims edit set beginning 1-1-17 as established by The Colorado Clean Claims Task Force unless such delay or repeal is agreed-to by vote of the CMS BOD and/or the House of Delegates”

Background:

The BOD received an important report in November 2014 on the status and implications of claims edit vendor participation withdrawal in the Colorado Clean Claims Initiative (CCCI). CCCI is a 4-year project of the State of Colorado, strongly backed by CMS, to standardize commercial health insurance plans’ claims edits and payment rules. CMS support for CCTF is based on: (1) Our conviction that Administrative Simplification is a health systems imperative; (2) The calculation that a standardized set of claims edits will save substantial money in transaction costs between providers and payers; and (3) Less administrative hassle with claims approvals will result in more timely care for patients.

Colorado state law mandates that all fully insured health insurance products, which includes products sold on the Health Insurance Exchange (Connect for Health Colorado), excepting ERISA products, use claims edits only available through the Colorado Common Edit Set starting January 1, 2017.

The reason for the proposed motion above is out of concern that the two largest companies in the US that build and sell claims edits for profit might disengage from CCCTF and thereby force health insurance plans to bring legislation to repeal the clean claims law or to delay its implementation, thereby preserving the claims edit line of business for the vendors and extending the Administrative Burden caused by private claims edits well into the future.

CMS has been very pleased over the past 4 years with the participation of these vendors with CCCTF and only recently been concerned about the implication of their potential withdrawal from CCTF. CMS is continuing to support the finalization of the Colorado common edit set by providing leadership, including collaborative interaction with all CCCTF stakeholders, including the claim vendors, to achieve a successful implementation date of 1-1-17.