Texas Health Care Information Collection - THCIC
Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 25 Number 4
June 13, 2022

Please share with all staff working with the THCIC data collection efforts.

Reason for Visit versus Primary Diagnosis

Patient's Reason for Visit and Primary Diagnosis Code often have the same value in a claim. However, they are not the same thing. Quality data in both fields can help researchers find clues for better healthcare. According to the UB-04 Data Specifications Manual, Patient's Reason for Visit is "the ICD diagnosis code … describing the patient's stated reason for visit at the time of outpatient registration" and Admitting (Primary) Diagnosis Code is "the ICD diagnosis code … describing the patient's diagnosis at the time of admission". The difference between the two is that the patient's reason for visit is the patient's initial complaint and the admitting diagnosis code is the facility's primary diagnosis after an initial examination.

New Technical Specifications

Updated versions of the THCIC Inpatient 5010 Technical Specifications and 5010 Inpatient and Outpatient Appendices have been posted on the THCIC website, https://dshs.texas.gov/thcic/, under the links to Facility Reporting Requirements for Inpatient and Outpatient. The changes THCIC made are detailed at the end (last section) of each document.

Data Collection Workgroup

THCIC holds a quarterly Data Collection Workgroup meeting in which we update stakeholders on recent events, share upcoming events and projects, and answer stakeholder questions. This is an opportunity for stakeholders to

interact with THCIC and be a part of future changes. If you would like to be added to the email list for future Data Collection Workgroup meetings, please send a request to andy.alegria@dshs.texas.gov.

The next Data Collection Workgroup meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 30, 10 a.m.- 11 a.m. An agenda will be sent to you by Friday, June 22, 2022. You can join us using the following:

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
Click here to join the meeting
Or call in (audio only)
+1 512-580-4366,,840825044#
Phone Conference ID: 840 825 044#

Upcoming Due Dates

Activity	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022
Cutoff for initial submission	~~3/1/2022~~	~~6/1/2022~~	9/1/2022
Cutoff for corrections (Free)	~~5/2/2022~~	8/1/2022	11/1/2022
Facilities retrieve certification files	6/1/2022	9/1/2022	12/1/2022
Cutoff for corrections at the time of certification (Associated Fees)	7/1/2022	10/3/2022	1/2/2023
Certification/comments due	7/15/2022	10/17/2022	1/17/2023

A schedule of **all** due dates may be found at:
http://www.dshs.texas.gov/THCIC/datareportingschedule.shtm

Videos for Troubleshooting
System13 has created several You Tube videos covering several topics on THCIC data reporting and data errors.

Allowed File Upload formats

Claim Entry (Manual Data Entry) - How to enter claims

Claim Correction - How to correct errors

Explaining the THCIC Required Codes List

Institutional -vs- Professional format

Social Security Number (SSN), Race, And Ethnicity issues

Troubleshooting 837 Submission Files

Correcting Physician Errors

Diagnosis (manifest) codes, E-Code, and POA Errors

Patient Control Number Errors

How To Certify

Did You Know?
- A new **FER** (Frequency of Error Report) should always be generated after data corrections have been made to ensure no errors were overlooked.

- A **Summary Report** should always be generated and reviewed each time data are submitted, again after data corrections and before the certification phase begins.

- **Provider Primary Contacts** must always keep their Logins active. Failure to log in at least every 60 days to reset your password may cause a temporary deactivation of your account. This is purposely deactivated for security purposes.

- All Data Manager and Data Certifier login passwords MUST be reset every 60 days in our system and must never be shared

- Your quarterly **certification "comments"** are **PUBLICLY** released as written. Remember to use caution. You should **never** provide physician or patient identifying information in a certification comment.

- **Emailing** of **Personal Identifying Information (PII)** or **Sensitive Personal Information (SPI)**, even if the email is encrypted, may not be adequately protected by all systems the data may pass through.

  Always contact the recipient first to inquire if emailing this type of information is acceptable.

- The **"Accept as is"** function in the data correction functionality **does not** correct an error. It only clears the notification of all the errors in the claim itself. The errors still count against the total accuracy rate in the **FER** unless it is corrected through the Correction Tab, or by submitting a corrected claim batch file through the system.

THCIC Training

THCIC provides **free** Webinar trainings on the data reporting processes that are required of all Texas hospitals, ASCs, and FEMCs.

Postings for Webinar dates may be viewed at:
http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thcic/Training.shtm

Signing up for training is limitless and refresher training is encouraged.

THCIC highly recommends and encourages all facility staff involved with the THCIC state data reporting to sign up for training.

To attend the Webinar training(s), please send inquiries to:
thcichelp@dshs.texas.gov.

For help or general questions on Submission, Correction, and Certification please contact THCIC at: thcichelp@dshs.texas.gov

How to Reach Us

System13, Inc. (in Virginia)
Web site: https://thcic.system13.com

System13 Helpdesk
Monday-Friday, 8:00a – 5:00p (Central Time)
Phone: (888) 308-4953 or (434) 977-0000
Email: thcichelp@system13.com

THCIC (in Austin)
Web site: www.dshs.texas.gov/thcic

Main phone: (512) 776-7261 (must leave a message)
Email: thcichelp@dshs.texas.gov

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THCIC staff may be contacted by email at thcichelp@dshs.texas.gov

Past Newsletters
https://dshs.texas.gov/thcic/Texas-Health-Care-Information-Collection-Numbered-Letters/

Links to Forms and Documents
    Patient Notification of Data Collection Form –
    http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thcic/Patient-Notification-of-Data-Collection.pdf

    Provider Contact Update Form -
    https://www.dshs.texas.gov/thcic/hospitals/FacilityInformationRequest.pdf

    No Quarterly Data to Report Form -
    https://dshs.texas.gov/thcic/hospitals/NoDataToReport.pdf

    Current Provider Contact List –
    https://dshs.texas.gov/thcic/hospitals/FacilityList.xls

    Appendices Document –
    https://www.dshs.texas.gov/thcic/hospitals/5010_InpatientandOutpatientAppendices.pdf

    Contains:

- Country Codes
- Default Values
- Race and Ethnicity documents
- Revenue Code Groupings used for Encounter File and PUDF
- Audit IDs and Audit Messages
- Payer Source Coding Guide
- Key Data Elements for matching INPATIENT claims
- Key Data Elements for matching OUTPATIENT claims

Data Reporting Schedule –
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/THCIC/datareportingschedule.shtm

Inpatient Reporting Requirements -
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/thcic/hospitals/TechReqSpec5010_Inpatient_THCIC837.pdf

Outpatient and Emergency Department Reporting Requirements -
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/thcic/OutpatientFacilities/TechReqSpec5010_Outpatient_THCIC837.pdf

HCPCS Codes -
https://dshs.texas.gov/thcic/OutpatientFacilities/HCPCS-Code-worksheet-for-2021.xls