# Texas Health Care Information Council

July 31, 2003                                             Hospital Numbered Letter Volume 6 Number 8

## 4Q02 Certification Data, CertView and DRG Descriptions For 001-099

The Council has uncovered an issue that will affect the certification reports for hospitals that had patients assigned DRGs between 001 and 099.   For DRGs 001 - 099, the DRG descriptions will appear as blank on the following physician reports: DRG Mortality Stats by Physician Report (C08), Patients for Attending Physician Report (C10) and Patients for Operating Physician Report (C11). All other information should appear on these reports.

A revised (7/28/03) CertView Software program is available at http://www.comclin.net/thcic/Certview03b2.exe which will allow you to print out your reports again and include the DRG descriptions for 001-099.  Hospitals with missing DRG descriptions that used the CertView software prior to 7/28/03 should download the revised version.

## Elimination of Paper and Diskette Distribution

Due to budgetary reductions, THCIC will no longer be able to furnish audit reports (Frequency of Error reports [(FER]), error data, or certification data on paper or diskette.  Hospitals will need to download their audit reports/error data and certification files from their mailbox at Commonwealth.  The effective date for this change is November 1, 2003.

For those hospitals that may not be able to make the transition by November 1, THCIC has authorized Commonwealth to continue to provide the reports / data on paper or diskette until the hospital has been able to make the transition.   There will be a charge of $ 30.00 plus shipping per distribution.  The charge will be payable directly to Commonwealth.  Hospitals must contact Commonwealth at 888-308-4953 to arrange to receive data on diskette prior to November 1st in order to prevent disruption in receipt of reports, error data and certification files.

Hospitals that are receiving certification data on CD:  THCIC will continue to provide certification files on CD to those hospitals that have data volumes that preclude dial-up data transfer.  THCIC is working to provide Internet FTP transfer capability that will allow large volume hospitals to download data directly.  At that time, THCIC will no longer offer distribution of certification data on CD.  THCIC will provide 90 days notification once the Internet FTP option is available.

## THCIC to Maintain Web-Based Registry of Providers Honoring Advanced Directives

**For consumers seeking providers honoring advance directives**

> This article should be forwarded to all hospital physicians, Chief Information Officers, and hospital administrators.

Senate Bill 1320 - Relating to certain advance directives for medical treatment and medical treatment decisions.  Signed by Governor Perry on June 20, 2003, the bill is effective immediately.

Chapter 166, Health and Safety Code, was amended by SB 1320, mandating THCIC to maintain a web-based registry of providers and groups interested in assisting the transfer of patients on whose behalf life-sustaining treatment is being sought and patients on whose behalf the withholding or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment is being sought.

Providers may sign up for the registry at www.thcic.state.tx.us.  This is a passive directory and will be updated only upon input by providers.

## Reminders and Deadlines

The complete hospital discharge data schedule may be downloaded from
http://www.thcic.state.tx.us/hospitals/schedule/schedule.htm

- 8/01/03 – Last day to submit corrections (without a fee) for 1q03 data
- 8/22/03 – HDD Committee meeting
- 8/22/03 – Council meeting
- 9/1/03 – 4q02 certification letter/comments due
- 9/1/03 – Last day to submit 2q03 claims
- 9/1/03 – Hospitals to receive 1q03 certification file