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Texas Health Care Information Collection - THCIC
 Health Facilities Numbered Letter, Volume 14 Number 4
 May 12, 2011

Provider Generated Certification

“I so love being able to certify my data when I’m ready to and not have to wait 3-4 months down the road.
 Just wanted to say “thank-you” for adding this option.”

Janis Drye
 Corporate Business Office Manager
 Global Rehab Hospitals

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* **THCIC Note:** Using the Provider Generated Certification option, Ms. Drye has generated, reviewed, and completed certification of 4q10 for her facilities and has also generated and is reviewing the 1q11 certification. **Well done!**

Provider Generated Certification

Beginning with the 4q10 data, providers have had the capability to generate the quarterly certification data if they wish to begin the certification process EARLIER than the regularly scheduled certification timeline.

The “**Generate Quarterly Certification**” button becomes “ready” from the day a reporting quarter ends until the corrections period ends for that reporting quarter. Providers should only implement the “**generate quarterly certification**” if **ALL** the data have been submitted and corrected (if needed) for a given reporting quarter.

**Training on this new feature is available through the WebCert training. (See below for more information about training.)

For those providers that do not elect to “generate” their certification data, System13 still provides this service the day after the “corrections” date ends for each reporting quarter.

Role of Provider Primary Contact

THCIC requires all hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers to assign a Provider Primary Contact. The main purpose of the Provider Primary Contact is to receive Email correspondence from THCIC and System13. They are the person to contact for day to day issues related to reporting, correcting, and certifying the THCIC data.

The types of email correspondence would include:

- data submission verification/confirmation reports (FER)
- notification for certification review (the Certifier contact also gets this)
- notification for completion of certification (the Certifier contact also gets this)
- notification of failure to report
- THCIC newsletter
- emailed authorization to reset the Provider login password

The Provider Primary Contact is the only one that can setup or reset a provider login password to the system. When a login password expires (every 60 days) it can only be reset by the Provider Primary Contact using the system's "password recovery" feature. If the Provider Primary Contact is unavailable to reset a password, this will prevent or "slow down" anyone at your facility from accessing the system.

It is suggested that a Provider Primary Contact be someone that is a "hands-on" user of the THCIC system.

Security of Patient and Physician Confidentiality (Hospitals, ASCs, and Submitters)

Patient and physician data submitted to THCIC must be kept confidential and secure throughout the process.

Data is submitted to THCIC by only two (2) methods:

- Electronic file upload to System13 via the secured server
- Data entry into WebClaim to System13 via the secured server

Data submissions to THCIC should only be made to System13 and:

- Data files should NEVER be E-mailed to THCIC or System13
- Hard copies of patient records should NEVER be mailed or faxed to THCIC or System13

Providers that use a third-party vendor for the submission of data to THCIC may wish to periodically review your processes for "security of data transmission" with your vendor.

Passwords for accessing the System13 secured server should be protected, as anyone having access to a Provider password will have access to the facility's confidential patient and physician information.

Let's keep data safe and secure!

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Outpatient Rules Published in *Texas Register*

Proposed amendments to §§421.61, 421.62, and 421.66 - 421.68 concerning the collection and release of data relating to individual patients who have had surgical procedures or radiological procedures performed in Texas hospitals (as an outpatient service including in the emergency department) or ambulatory surgical centers were posted in the *Texas Register* on April 22, 2011.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted to Bruce M. Burns, D.C., Center for Health Statistics, Department of State Health Services, Mail Code 1898, P.O. Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347, Fax (512) 458-7740. Comments will be accepted for 30 days following publication of the proposal in the *Texas Register*.

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/pdf/backview/0422/0422prop.pdf> page 2592

Hospital Review – IQI and PDI 2009 Quality Report Release

THCIC will release *Indicators of Inpatient Care in Texas Hospitals, 2009 (IQI)* and *Quality of Children's Care in Texas Hospitals, 2009 (PDI)* in August 2011. All hospitals that provided Inpatient data to THCIC will be given the opportunity to review and/or comment on the report prior to its release. Beginning April 25, 2011 and ending June 23, 2011 hospitals will have access to a restricted website for viewing the data in the report and submitting a comment that will be released with the report.

The 2009 IQI and PDI reports that will be released in August 2011 will include mean charges for each indicator, by hospital. An additional report on composites of the mortality indicators for selected procedures and of the mortality indicators for selected conditions for each hospital will be included in the IQI report.

Race and Ethnicity Table

A table showing the distribution of county population by **race and ethnicity**, as reported by the Bureau of the Census, compared with the race and ethnicity of discharges as reported by hospitals in the county is available for hospital review along with the two reports on hospital performance. The table shows how the race and ethnicity of patients discharged from hospitals compare with that of the county population, and also shows some possible problems with how race and ethnicity are coded and reported by some hospitals. This information will not be published, but it can be calculated by any user of the Public Use Data File.

THCIC mailed notification to each reporting hospital the week of April 11th to the physical address of the hospital to the attention of the hospital administrator.

If your hospital administrator did not receive the IQI/PDI notification letter, please send an email to dee.roes@dshs.state.tx.us. THCIC will only provide the login information to the current Provider Primary Contact, Alternate Contact, or Certifier Contact. Please provide your THCIC ID number in the email.

Data Quality

Length of Stay is calculated using the date of admission. If date of admission is not reported Length of Stay cannot be calculated and it is reported in the Public Use Data File as a blank field.

Training (Hospitals, ASCs and Submitters)

THCIC provides FREE on-line training on the data reporting processes required of all Texas hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers.

Training sessions are posted at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic/hospitals/Training.shtm>. There is no limit on how many times you can sign up for the training and refresher training is encouraged.

If you would like to attend the training sessions or have questions, please e-mail Tiffany Overton at thcichelp@dshs.state.tx.us and:

Include your preferred training Date and Time in the “Subject” line; and the following in the message area:

- THCIC ID Number
- Facility Name
- Participant(s) Name and Title
- E-mail Address
- Phone Number

Training is provided on:

- **WebClaim** – Component for manually entering data
- **WebCorrect** – Component for correcting data
- **Upload/ Download** - Upload 837 batch files
- **WebCert (Inpatient Certification)** – Certifying your facility Inpatient Data
- **WebCert (Outpatient Certification)** – Certifying your facility Outpatient Data

Important Phone Numbers

Virginia:

System13 web site – <https://thcic.system13.com>

Helpdesk – 888-308-4953

Austin:

THCIC web site – www.dshs.state.tx.us/thcic

DSHS-Center for Health Statistics-THCIC – 512-458-7261

THCIC Staff – 512-458-7111

Bruce Burns, D.C.	extension 6431	Rules and policy issues, 837 format issues
Miren Carranza	extension 3287	Project Manager
Sylvia Cook	extension 6438	Facility reports, data use
	extension 7261	PUDF requests
Wang-Shu Lu	extension 6453	Facility reports and analysis
Dee Roes	extension 3374	Facility compliance, research files request
Tiffany Overton	extension 2352	Facility training (submission, correction, and certification)

THCIC fax – 512-458-7740