

Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS)
Quarterly Submitter Forum Summary

Date:	March 13, 2024	Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting
Start Time:	11:00 AM	End Time:	12:00 PM

Meeting Panelists	Optum Government Solutions: Jennifer Commerford, Aravind Gangaiah, Alan Scantlen, Marianne Altomare SPARCS Program: John Sullivan, Janet Nguyen, Michele Van Epps, David Marinik, Cassandra Skinner
Agenda	• Open Discussion ◦ Duplicate Logic for Inpatient Records ◦ Birthweight Edit (N00010) Update ◦ NDC Edits to Be Deactivated ◦ Payer (P) Edit Issue • SPARCS Compliance Update • Reference Section
Summary	<u>Open Discussion</u> Duplicate Logic for Inpatient Claims • The duplicate remediation project deadline is 3/31. • The observations made throughout the duplicate remediation project have resulted in the following proposed changes to duplicate logic: ◦ <i>Removal Of</i> ▪ Statement From Date ▪ Statement Through Date ▪ Facility Type Code ▪ Admit Hour ◦ <i>Addition Of</i> ▪ Facility PFI ▪ Medical Record Number ▪ Admit Date ▪ Discharge Date ▪ Patient Control Number Birthweight Edit (N0010) Update • Current Message ◦ For newborn patients with inpatient place of service, a whole number birthweight between 150gm and 12500gm must be reported. • Proposed Updated Message ◦ For newborn patients with inpatient place of service, a while number birthweight between 99gm and 12500gm must be reported. • SPARCS is Requesting Feedback from facilities at sparcs.submissions@health.ny.gov on the following: ◦ Are birthweights reported accurate per medical record? ▪ Examples, was a zero missed, or accidentally added? Are birthweights reported for weight at birth or at a follow-up? NDC Codes to Be Deactivated • The team will be disabling the following error codes:



- H51090: NCD Code value '%d' not found in NDC Database.
- H51093: NDC Code '%d' is not valid based on the date provided.

Payer (P) Edit Issue

- Between the dates of 10/08/2024 – 11/14/2024, there was an issue in SPARCS OTVM with all Payer (P) Edits not triggered on submitted 837R files. While all other edit types (B, H, N) were still triggering during this timeframe, data records that would have triggered P edits and normally would have been rejected, have loaded into the data tables.
- Analysis is ongoing and currently there is impact for all facility and claim types received during this time. Examples of impacted data include the following:
 - County Codes
 - Race Codes
 - Ethnicity Codes
- Resubmission to correct Payer (P) edits will be requested in the near future

SPARCS Compliance Updates

- Current regulatory requirements for data submission include having:
 - To submit inpatient, outpatient, ambulatory, and emergency department visits monthly;
 - at least 95 percent of their total data submitted within 60 days from the end of the discharge month; and
 - Have 100 percent of their total data submitted within 180 days from the end of the discharge month.
- SPARCS will be updating to an **Annual Reconciliation** process, where:
 - Annual reconciliation warning notices will be sent to all facilities with any non-compliance during the previous calendar year beginning April 2025.
 - Facilities must review data to certify that all submissions from all quarters of 2024 were completed.
 - Statements of Deficiency will resume in July 2025 following annual reconciliation period.

Reference Section

- **SPARCS Support**
 - Facilities or vendors who submit data to SPARCS can email SPARCS.Submissions@health.ny.gov regarding:
 - New facility portal set up.
 - SPARCS submitter provisioning requests.
 - Updated SPARCS Coordinators or Contacts.
 - SPARCS Compliance questions and exception or extension requests.
 - SPARCS policy questions.
 - SPARCS.Submissions@health.ny.gov should **not** be confused with the SPARCS Requests email address which is for people who are requesting research data from SPARCS.
 - PHI must **never** be sent in any email communications, and any screenshots or reports containing PHI must be fully redacted. Such redacted screenshots and reports should only be shared if absolutely necessary.
- **New SPARCS Portal**



- Facilities or vendors who submit data to SPARCS should submit help desk tickets through the portal for Optum support. Support can include:
 - Portal training and claim testing
 - File or record rejections
 - Interpretation of edit error reports
 - Technical issue or questions
- Optum can be reached at: (866) 678-8646, *Option #2, then Option #4.*

SPARCS Reminders

- **Rules for Data Submissions**

- Data Submission files should only contain data for a single PFI.
- Files submitted through SFTP must begin with "FAC" followed by your PFI.
- The original filename must be limited to 89 characters.
- If submitting directly through the portal, files must not exceed a size of 5MB.

- **Recommendations for Data Submission**

- If submitting through SFTP try to keep files under 10MB.
- Avoid submitting files between 12:00AM - 1:00am (EST).

Avoid submitting large files simultaneously.