

## Claims rules implemented, Remittance Advice (RA) is next

Alarms didn't sound. Bells didn't ring. But as of July 15, 2009, Minnesota made history by requiring all health care claims to be filed electronically and in a standard format. Thank you's go out to everyone who helped make this a reality. We watch now as Congress discusses these and other administrative simplification efforts, knowing once again that Minnesota has begun to implement laws that are the first of their type in the country. If you have questions regarding claims submission rules, please visit us online at [www.health.state.mn.us/auc/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/auc/index.html)

Next up is the **December 15, 2009** standardized, electronic remittance advice deadline.

## Tips to meet Dec. 15 RA requirements

Starting December 15, group purchasers must transmit Remittance Advices to providers in an electronic, standard format. Group purchasers and providers should work together to determine the best option for receiving the electronic RA (835) transaction. These tips will help prepare you for compliance.

Group purchasers should:

- Consult Minnesota's new *Claim Payment Remittance Advice (835) Companion Guide* for data standards (online at [www.health.state.mn.us/auc/guides.htm](http://www.health.state.mn.us/auc/guides.htm)) and related Best Practices, including:
  - [Electronic Funds Transfer](#)
  - [Acknowledgement Receipt of Manual Full Refund](#)
  - [Balance Forward Processing](#)
- Use the Minnesota HIPAA Collaborative's free online testing tool at [www.mnhipaacollab.org/testing.php](http://www.mnhipaacollab.org/testing.php) to test your 835 outbound transactions
- Review the WEDI White Paper on Successful Practices for Implementation and Use of the 835 Transaction, online at [www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/dis\\_publicDisplay.cfm?docType=6&wptype=3](http://www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/dis_publicDisplay.cfm?docType=6&wptype=3) (website registration required)

**AUC participating on several**

### Minnesota's E3 Initiative

*The AUC is working closely with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to implement a state law (Minnesota State Statutes, section 62J.536) for the standard, electronic exchange of common health care business transactions.*

Contact us at [Health.AUC@state.mn.us](mailto:Health.AUC@state.mn.us)

### Test your transactions for free

The Minnesota HIPAA Collaborative allows for free testing for eligibility (270/271) and claims (837) transactions. Test your compliance for HIPAA and E3 online at [www.mnhipaacollab.org/testing.php](http://www.mnhipaacollab.org/testing.php)

### AUC continues to study different versions of X12, NCPDP

By January 1, 2012:

- **X12:** 5010 will replace 4010
- **NCPDP:** D.0 will replace 5.1

More information is online at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/TransactionCodeSetsStands/02\\_TransactionsandCodeSetsRegulations.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/TransactionCodeSetsStands/02_TransactionsandCodeSetsRegulations.asp)

The AUC is studying the differences between versions and will consult with MDH on impacts to Minnesota's new Uniform Companion Guides.

**Fillable form available for**

## health care reform groups, legislative efforts

The AUC was around long before E3, and will be here after the December 15 deadline, has been working to standardize and simplify health care transactions in Minnesota for some time, across an array of activities and initiatives. Here's a brief rundown of the non-E3 related work in which the AUC is participating:

- **Uniform Formulary Exception Form**  
MDH worked with the AUC and other stakeholders to develop a standard form for formulary exception requests. After a thorough review process, the form was adopted for use by all providers and group purchasers. The form and its instructions can be found online at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/asa/form.html>
- **Uniform Claims Review Process Study**  
AUC members are collaborating with MDH, the Minnesota Council of Health Plans, the Minnesota Hospital Association and the Minnesota Medical Association to explore the potential for reducing claims adjudication costs. Is it possible for health care providers and health plan companies to reduce costs by adopting more uniform payment methods? What is the potential impact of establishing uniform prices that would replace current prices negotiated individually by providers with separate payers? AUC members provided expertise to develop this study earlier this year. Expect to hear more from MDH soon.
- **Baskets of Care**  
Members of the AUC have served as liaisons to the MDH Baskets of Care initiative, attending Operational and Administrative Challenges Work Group Phase I and II meetings. More information and an initial report is online at [www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform/baskets/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform/baskets/index.html)
- **4010 to 5010 companion guides**  
The AUC Eligibility, Claims DD and EOB/Remit TAGs and the Pharmacy Work Group are hard at work developing new Minnesota Uniform Companion Guides to align with new (national) 5010 standards, to be published in 2010. The HIPAA Final Rule requires "Level 1" (internal testing) to be completed by December 2010 and "Level 2" (external testing) to begin in January 2011. A big thanks to all TAGs for the many hours they have already given to this effort!

## claim attachments

Many group purchasers are following the AUC Best Practice for claims attachments by accepting a common cover sheet and automating the attachment process. Providers can now use the same cover sheet and data elements to submit claim attachments to more than 18 local and national group purchasers. Access the cover sheet and instructions online at [www.health.state.mn.us/auc/attachments.htm](http://www.health.state.mn.us/auc/attachments.htm)

## Local associations spread the word about E3

The AUC recently asked a number of Minnesota's provider associations to survey their members about E3 readiness and to collect information about billing vendors.

Check your association's web page to see if they list vendors or survey results.

## AUC's Claim Compliance Checklist a resource for you

Wondering how the recent changes for standard, electronic claim submission and processing effect you? You're not alone. Take a quick glance at the AUC Claim Compliance Checklist (online at [www.health.state.mn.us/auc/complchklist.pdf](http://www.health.state.mn.us/auc/complchklist.pdf)) to see what this really means for you.

*More information regarding these activities is available online:*

AUC: [www.health.state.mn.us/auc](http://www.health.state.mn.us/auc)

MDH: [www.health.state.mn.us/asa](http://www.health.state.mn.us/asa)