

PERM 2007 Cycle Call Notes
Monday, June 18, 3:00 PM Eastern

<u>State Participants</u> AL: Jackie Thomas, Cynthia Dugan AL SCHIP: Vikki Brant CA SCHIP: Ginny Veneracion-Alunan CO – Vivian Tran, Donna Kellow GA: Michelle Mickey GA SCHIP: Rebecca Kellenberg, Brian Down KY: Evette Patton MA and MA SCHIP: Dave Kerrigan, JoAnn Medford MD, MD SCHIP: Theresa Carrington NC: Carleen Massey NC SCHIP: Theresa Wood	NE, NE SCHIP: Becky Steenson NJ, NJ SCHIP: Claude Singleton, Stanley Grifford RI: Sharon Young SC, SC SCHIP: Cindy Durrett TN: Rick Wells TN SCHIP: Stephanie Dickerson, Andrea Willis WV: Scott Winterfield VT, VT SCHIP: Marybeth McCaffrey, Cindy Littlefield (EDS) RI: Sharon Young	<u>CMS</u> Doug Nock, CMS Project Manager Bill Gould, Sr. Technical Advisory for PI Lisa Fukushima, Project Officer for review contractor and 2007 Cycle Manager Elizabeth Leonard <u>CMS Contractors</u> Pam Applegate, Livanta Linda Clark Helms, HDI Moirra Forbes, Lewin <u>APHSA/NASMD</u> Andrea Maresca
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I. Introductions and Purpose

Andrea Maresca, APHSA/NASMD, took a roll call of participants.

II. Website

Lisa Fukushima, CMS, discussed the launch of the revamped CMS PERM website which can be viewed at www.cms.hhs.gov/PERM/

The website is intended to be a “one-stop-shop” to allow states to obtain information about the PERM program. The site includes or will soon include:

- Links to the CMS PERM contractors sites.
- A “What’s New” section that contains updated information on what’s been added to the site.
- A Q&As/FAQs section
- A PERM listserv for states will be relaunched shortly.

III. PERM Status Update from CMS

CMS provided an update on PERM activities to date. The agency is in the process with the PERM contractors of getting states’ data in order and getting the universes pulled for the states. States were strongly encouraged to comply with the instructions regarding the fields they need to populate and return to Livanta and meet the timelines specified in the instructions. States also were encouraged to involve their IT staff from the data processing unit so that they could help ensure timely transmission of information to Livanta. States should direct any questions regarding the format for the data to the contractors. Contractors are expected to walk the states through the process and format.

Livanta reported that they are communicating with the states that they have sent the sample files to so far. She stressed that the provider information in the detailed claims is the starting point for the contractor to request provider records; the ore information on who is the holder of the medical record makes the process easier and the contractor will not have to have states involved in trying to find it.

Andrea Maresca, APHSA, clarified that the cycle calls are separate from any efforts by the PERM contractors. APHSA maintains its own contact list that is not shared with the PERM contractors.

Action Item: States should send any updated contact information to Lewin at: permsc.2007@lewin.com. Lewin will pass this information on to other contractors.

Some states reported that they recently had received a PERM sample that was only for managed care, and not FFS. The PERM contractors reported that they are processing every universe separately. Each is filed and goes through QC. Because some thing get delayed in QC, the contractors move forward with the other parts.

Lisa Fukushima explained the four universes being examined: Medicaid FFS, Medicaid managed care, SCHIP FFS, and SCHIP managed care. Eligibility is measured at the state level; eligibility related questions can be addressed during the July cycle call.

PERM is still in the beginning stages for the 2007 states and contractors are just starting to get samples. States were encouraged to contact the contractors or Lisa Fukushima directly with any questions that they have. States also can raise questions for discussion during the cycle calls.

Doug Nock, CMS, reported that at the beginning of each of the cycle calls, the CMS project manager will provide a brief update on where they are in the measurement process, on deficiencies, and on how well CMS and the states are doing on measurement.

States were interested in the scope and periodicity of updates on how they are doing. The CMS PERM website will include a link to Livanta's website. On Livanta's website states can monitor the status of each of the claims collected each quarter. This should help states to step in at any point in time to get the medical record to the contractor. Once the review process has begun, states can link to the review contractor website to review the status as the contractors is going through the process.

States were encouraged to take proactive steps in this process. The website is expected to assist states in monitoring the progress of each medical record and see if they are in the insufficient doc status. If it's for a claim, states will see where each of the claims is as the 90 days goes forward. Contractors will be available to provide assistance. Livanta and HDI will be sending passwords to get each of states signed up and log in.

CMS plans to start the processes with states earlier than what was done for the 2006 cycle states. CMS and the PERM contractors will focus on increasing their interaction with and cooperation with states and will try to share as much data as possible. They will not get into state specific data on the cycle calls but can provide this information individual on a periodic basis if desired. The website will house alot of information and will be updated frequently.

Lewin reported that they are scheduled to mail the third quarter request letter on 6/20. It will be mailed to the primary state contact and emailed to all on Lewin's list. It is important for states to have their contact information up to date with the contractors.

IV. Other issues

No additional issues were raised on this call. States were encouraged to submit questions and issues that they would like addressed on the next call to Andrea Maresca at amaresca@aphsa.org or 202-682-0100.

***Next 2007 PERM Cycle Call: July 16, 2007 from 3:00-4:00 PM Eastern.
The call in number is 410-786-3100, and the participant code is 996553.***