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## 21. ENCOUNTER DATA REPORTING

### A. Encounter Data Submission Requirements

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#### **APPLIES TO:**

A. This policy applies to all IEHP Medi-Cal IPAs.

#### **POLICY:**

- A. IEHP ensures complete, accurate, reasonable, and timely submission of encounter data to Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for all items and services furnished to its Members, whether directly or through its IPAs, including capitated Providers.<sup>1,2</sup>
- B. On an annual basis, IEHP re-evaluates the validity and adequacy standards based on state regulatory changes, results of the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) audit and historical encounter data experience.
- C. IEHP is responsible for monitoring and picking up all response files in a timely manner.

#### **PURPOSE:**

- A. IPAs are required to submit this data to enable IEHP to comply with regulatory requirements, accurately capture data for various medical programs, and help improve medical and financial performance.<sup>3</sup>

#### **PROCEDURES:**

- A. IEHP must conform with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Quality Measures for Encounter Data. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/Pages/QualityMeasurementAndReporting.aspx>
- B. IPAs must submit, via Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP), the appropriate encounter information in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Compliant 837 Version 5010 transaction set format (ASC X12 Health Care Claim Type 3 Technical Report (TR3)), referred to as the Implementation Guide (IG)).<sup>4,5</sup> This is in conformance with the IEHP companion guide as outlined by IEHP's Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Manual and Encounter Data Companion Guide.
- C. Encounter and utilization data must be submitted to IEHP within three (3) months after the month in which services are rendered to a Member.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)-IEHP Two-Plan Contract, 1/10/20 (Final Rule A27), Exhibit A, Attachment 3, Provision 2, Encounter Data Reporting

<sup>2</sup> DHCS All Plan Letter (APL) 17-004, "Subcontractual Relationships and Delegation"

<sup>3</sup> DHCS-IEHP Two-Plan Contract, 1/10/20 (Final Rule A27), Exhibit A, Attachment 3, Provision 2, Encounter Data Reporting

<sup>4</sup> DHCS APL 14-019 Supersedes APL 13-006, "Encounter Data Submission Requirements"

<sup>5</sup> DHCS APL 14-020, "Quality Measures for Encounter Data," Quality Measures for Encounter Data (QMED) Version 1.1

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

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- D. IPAs must submit data for *all* covered services provided to a Member, including Primary Care Provider (PCP) visits and delegated services.<sup>7</sup>
- E. Each month, the encounter data submitted to IEHP must meet three (3) requirements as set forth by IEHP: **Timeliness**,<sup>8</sup> **Validity**,<sup>9</sup> and **Adequacy**. Each month is reviewed on an aggregate basis.
1. **Timeliness:** 100% of encounter data must be received by IEHP within three (3) months after the month in which services are rendered to a Member. This is known as the Due Date. Errors found in these files must be corrected and returned to IEHP by the Final Due Date (See EDI Manual Section 7C, “Encounter Data File Due Date Schedule).
  2. **Validity:** A compilation of the initial monthly submission and any subsequently corrected data for the same receipt month must be at minimum 95% valid.
  3. **Adequacy:** A compilation of valid data received within the month for the specified timeframe, must meet 100% of the following adequacy standards:

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Total Encounters: Non-SPD</b>	<b>Total Encounters: SPD</b>	<b>ER Visits [medical encounters]</b>	<b>Hospital Inpatient</b>
<b>PMPY Standard: IPA</b>	5.00	13.00	Not applicable	Not applicable
<b>PMPY Standard: Hospital</b>	No minimum standard	No minimum standard	0.23	0.17

\* Per Member Per Year (PMPY) = encounters / member months x 12

\* Adequacy standards based on state regulatory guidelines, HEDIS® audit results and historical encounter data experience.

- F. Within three (3) business days of receipt of the encounter data file, IEHP processes the data and places error reports that summarize the data received and rejected due to errors on the SFTP portal in the IPA’s specified file location.
- G. IEHP utilizes the “Official ICD-10-CM Guidelines for Coding and Reporting” as part of the validation process.
- H. Age and gender rules for Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes will be enforced.
- I. For all IPA medical encounters, the Individual (‘person type’) National Provider Identifier (NPI) is required to be submitted as Provider ID for Billing and Rendering Provider.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> DHCS APL 14-020, QMED Version 1.1

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

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According to ASC X12 837 Implementation Guides the exceptions are limited to the atypical providers. Examples: taxi drivers, carpenters, personal care providers, etc.

- J. For all hospital encounters, the Individual ('person type') NPI must be submitted as the "Attending Provider ID."
- K. It is the responsibility of the IPA to retrieve the error reports; then correct and resubmit the encounter data rejected due to errors within the specified timeframe. All encounters that are rejected **MUST** be resubmitted, regardless of whether or not the threshold has been met (See EDI Manual Section 7C, "Encounter Data File Due Date Schedule for timeframes).<sup>11</sup>
- L. In addition, IEHP places reports on the SFTP portal that indicate whether or not the validity and adequacy standards have been met. These reports help the IPA identify a standard that has not been met in a given month.
- M. IEHP works with each IPA to ensure that any problem areas can be corrected in a timely manner. For assistance in working through the details of encounter submission, e-mail the IEHP Encounter Team at [EncounterData@iehp.org](mailto:EncounterData@iehp.org).
- N. Failure to submit encounter data that meets IEHP's submission requirements for Timeliness, Validity, and Adequacy may result in IEHP temporarily deducting one percent (1%), unless successfully appealed, of the IPA's monthly capitation for the first month the encounter data fails to meet the Timeliness, Validity, or Adequacy requirements. IEHP may deduct three percent (3%) of the Provider's monthly capitation for the second month, and five percent (5%) for each subsequent month the encounter data fails to meet the Timeliness, Validity, or Adequacy requirement (See Attachment, "Encounter Data Penalty Letter" in Section 21). If the IPA has failed to meet the Timeliness, Validity and Adequacy standards for six (6) consecutive months during the calendar year, the Provider may be ineligible to participate in the IPA Pay for Performance Program (P4P).
  - 1. If the IPA is able to meet the adequacy and validity requirements at the end of the year through the submission of additional encounter data, the Provider may be eligible to receive half of the total amount of capitation deducted during the calendar year.
- O. HEDIS® medical record abstraction data will be used to identify "missed" encounters. IPAs found to have more than 25% of encounters unsubmitted may be notified and required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) outlining the steps taken to resolve the issue (See Attachment, "Encounter Data CAP Request Letter" in section 21).
- P. IPAs will need to provide primary source verification data to IEHP upon request to support encounter data validation activities.
- Q. Additionally, when encounter data does not meet the submission requirements for either Validity of any two (2) months of receipt in a rolling four (4) month period, or Adequacy for any two (2) months of service in a rolling four (4) month period, or if IEHP identifies any

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<sup>11</sup> DHCS APL 14-019

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other systemic data completeness issues. IEHP may request a CAP from the IPA to remedy the problem, as follows:

1. IEHP sends a letter to the IPA requesting a CAP (See Attachment, “Encounter Data CAP Request Letter” in Section 21). The letter details the following:
    - a. The months that the encounter data did not meet the requirements;
    - b. The dates when the encounter data was due to IEHP;
    - c. The file names for all encounter data files that did not meet the requirements;
    - d. The reasons the encounter data did not meet the requirements, whether it be timeliness, validity, adequacy, or a combination of the three (3);
    - e. The date the CAP is due to IEHP; and
    - f. Request for submission of valid and adequate encounter data for the timeframes in question.
  2. The IPA must submit a CAP to IEHP within thirty (30) days from the date of the CAP Request letter. The CAP must include the following:
    - a. The name of the person responsible for implementing the CAP;
    - b. A list of specific actions to be taken to ensure that encounter data meets the submission requirements;
    - c. Completion dates for each of the corrective actions; and
    - d. A valid and adequate encounter data file.
  3. IEHP sends the IPA a letter of acceptance or rejection of the CAP within thirty (30) days of receipt of the CAP.
    - a. IEHP includes the specific reasons for rejection of any CAP.
    - b. Any rejected CAP must be resubmitted within fifteen (15) days to IEHP.
    - c. Timeframes can be altered at the discretion of IEHP depending on specific circumstances.
  4. IPAs who fail to submit an acceptable CAP within the required timeframes and/or valid and adequate encounter data, are frozen to new enrollment until such time that the CAP and/or data is approved and meets standards.
- R. IPAs that receive a request for CAP twice within a one (1) year period are immediately frozen to enrollment and are subject to one of the following actions:
1. IPAs are required to subcontract with a Management Services Organization (MSO) or Third-Party Administrator (TPA) for handling and submitting encounter data;
  2. Hospitals are required to convert from a Capitated contract to a Per Diem Agreement; or
  3. Termination of the IEHP Capitated Agreement.

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- S. IPAs wishing to appeal an adverse decision may do so in accordance with Policy 16D, “IPA, Hospital and Practitioner Grievance and Appeals Resolution Process.” Providers must cite specific reasons for their appeal.
- T. For a comprehensive outline of the SFTP, Encounter Data error reports, etc., please refer to the EDI Manual.
- U. The responsibility for Encounter Data reporting, as outlined above, continues until all services rendered during the timeframe of a Capitated Agreement have been reported.

INLAND EMPIRE HEALTH PLAN		
<b>Chief Approval:</b> <i>Signature on File</i>	<b>Original Effective Date:</b>	April 1, 2007
<b>Chief Title:</b> Chief Medical Officer	<b>Revision Date:</b>	January 1, 2023

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## 21. ENCOUNTER DATA REPORTING

### B. Encounter Data Submission Requirements for Directly Contracted Capitated Providers

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#### **APPLIES TO:**

- A. This policy applies to all IEHP Medi-Cal directly contracted Capitated Providers.

#### **POLICY:**

- A. IEHP ensures complete, accurate, reasonable, and timely submission of encounter data to Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for all items and services furnished by directly contracted Capitated Providers to its Members.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### **PURPOSE:**

- A. Directly contracted Capitated Providers are required to submit encounter data to enable IEHP to comply with regulatory requirements, accurately capture data for various medical programs and help improve medical and financial performance.<sup>3</sup>

#### **DEFINITION:**

- A. Directly contracted Capitated Providers - For the purpose of this policy, directly contracted Capitated Providers are Providers with a capitation agreement with IEHP for services including: Primary Care Services, Lab Services, Pharmacy Services, Inpatient and Outpatient Services.

#### **PROCEDURES:**

- A. IEHP must conform with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Quality Measures for Encounter Data. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/Pages/QualityMeasurementAndReporting.aspx>.
- B. Directly contracted Capitated Providers must submit a CMS-1500 or EDI form with all appropriate encounter information to IEHP within thirty (30) days after the month in which the services are rendered to a Member. Submission can be done through IEHP's secure Provider portal or via mail to the IEHP Claims Department at P.O. Box 4349 Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729-4349.
- C. Directly contracted Capitated Providers must submit data for all covered services provided to a Member, including Primary Care Provider (PCP) visits and sub-capitated services, and must include all available diagnosis codes related to the service provided.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)-IEHP Two-Plan Contract, 1/10/20 (Final Rule A27), Exhibit A, Attachment 3, Provision 2, Encounter Data Reporting

<sup>2</sup> DHCS All Plan Letter (APL) 17-004, "Subcontractual Relationships and Delegation"

<sup>3</sup> DHCS-IEHP Two-Plan Contract, 1/10/20 (Final Rule A27), Exhibit A, Attachment 3, Provision 2, Encounter Data Reporting

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## 21. ENCOUNTER DATA REPORTING

### B. Encounter Data Submission Requirements for Directly Contracted Capitated Providers

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- D. Each month, the encounter data submitted to IEHP must meet the following three (3) requirements as set forth by IEHP: **Timeliness**, **Validity**, and **Adequacy**. Each month is reviewed on an aggregate basis.
1. **Timeliness:** 100% of encounter data must be received by IEHP within thirty (30) days after the month in which services are rendered to IEHP Members. Errors found in these files must be corrected and returned to IEHP by the Final Due Date (See EDI Manual Section 7C, “Encounter Data File Due Date Schedule).
  2. **Validity:** A compilation of the initial monthly submission and any subsequently corrected data for the same receipt month must be at minimum 95% valid.
  3. **Adequacy:** A minimum quantity of encounters in a specified time frame. Capitated Pediatric Providers are targeted to submit a minimum of 2.5 primary care encounters per Member per year. All other Capitated Providers are targeted to submit a minimum of 3.0 primary care encounters per Member per year.
- E. On an annual basis, IEHP re-evaluates the adequacy standards based on state regulatory changes, results of the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) audit and historical encounter data experience.
- F. IEHP utilizes the “Official ICD-10-CM Guidelines for Coding and Reporting” as part of the validation process.
- G. Age and gender rules for Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes will be enforced.
- H. For all medical encounters submitted, the Provider’s individual National Provider Identifier (NPI) is required to be submitted as the “Rendering Provider ID.”<sup>4</sup>
- I. IEHP monitors and works with each Provider to ensure that any problem areas can be corrected in a timely manner. For assistance in working through the details of encounter submission please e-mail the IEHP Encounter Team at [EncounterData@iehp.org](mailto:EncounterData@iehp.org).
- J. When encounter data does not meet IEHP’s submission requirements for timeliness or adequacy, IEHP may request a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) from the Provider. The Provider must submit a CAP within thirty (30) days from the date of the CAP Request letter. The CAP must include the following:
1. The name of the person responsible for implementing the CAP;
  2. A list of specific actions to be taken to ensure that encounter data meets the submission requirements;
  3. Completion dates for each of the corrective actions; and
  4. A valid and adequate number of encounters.

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<sup>4</sup> DHCS, “Quality Measures for Encounter Data,” January 2, 2015.

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### B. Encounter Data Submission Requirements for Directly Contracted Capitated Providers

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- K. Directly contracted Capitated Providers who fail to submit an acceptable CAP within the required timeframes may be frozen to new enrollment until such time that the CAP is approved and meets standards. Capitated Providers that continue to be non-compliant with encounter data submission will result in conversion from PCP capitation to a fee-for-service arrangement with IEHP.
- L. Directly contracted Capitated Providers wishing to appeal an adverse decision may do so in accordance with Policy 20A1, “Claims Processing - Provider Dispute Resolution Process – Initial Claims Disputes.” Capitated Providers must cite specific reasons for their appeal.
- M. The responsibility for Encounter Data reporting as outlined above, continues until all services rendered during the timeframe a Capitated Agreement was in place are reported.

INLAND EMPIRE HEALTH PLAN		
<b>Chief Approval:</b> <i>Signature on file</i>	<b>Original Effective Date:</b>	August 1, 2007
<b>Chief Title:</b> Chief Medical Officer	<b>Revision Date:</b>	January 1, 2023



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## 21. ENCOUNTER DATA REPORTING

### Attachments

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<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>POLICY CROSS REFERENCE</u>
Encounter Data CAP Request Letter	21A
Encounter Data Penalty Letter	21A

[Date]

**MAILED VIA CERTIFIED MAIL #**

«Admin\_Sur\_Name» «Admin\_Name»  
 «Admin\_Title»  
 «Entity\_Name»  
 «Admin\_AdjAddress»  
 «Admin\_AdjCity», CA «Admin\_AdjZip»

**RE: Request for Corrective Action Plan**

Dear «Admin\_FirstName»:

As you are aware, all contracted Providers must meet Inland Empire Health Plan's (IEHP) timeliness, validity, and adequacy requirements for all encounter data submissions.

An assessment of «Entity\_Name»'s historical encounter data submissions was performed on «Date\_Reviewed». According to our records, «Entity\_Name» has failed to meet the following requirements, as indicated, at least two times in a rolling four-month period.

Months of Service	File Due Date	File Names	Standard Not Met	IEHP Requirement	Hospital Data Reported

IEHP has determined that «Entity\_Name»'s failure to meet the <<Type>> standard is attributed to <<Insert identified problems here>>.

In accordance with IEHP Policy 21A "Encounter Data Submission Requirements", IEHP is requesting a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the above specified deficiencies. Please include the person responsible for implementing the CAP, the specific actions to be undertaken that will ensure the encounter data meets submission requirements and the anticipated completion date(s) for each corrective action. **«Entity\_Name» must submit all requested information to the attention of the IEHP Director of IT Data Management, no later than «Due\_Date».**

Additionally, complete, valid and adequate encounter data must be resubmitted for the identified deficient files within this timeframe.

Page 2  
[Date]  
«Entity\_Name»

IEHP's ultimate goal is to receive complete and accurate encounter data. If you have any questions, please contact the IEHP HelpDesk at (909) 890-2025.

Sincerely,

Director of Encounters and EDI

cc: «Encounter\_Name», «Encounter\_Title»  
«Claims\_Manager»  
«CC\_Encounter»  
«PSR\_Name», «PSR\_Title»  
«File\_Code»  
IEHP Vice President, Quality  
IEHP Director, Advanced Technology  
IEHP Director, Healthcare Informatics  
IEHP Director, Provider Delegation

[Date]

**MAILED VIA CERTIFIED MAIL #**

«Admin\_Sur\_Name» «Admin\_Name»  
«Admin\_Title»  
«Entity\_Name»  
«Admin\_AdjAddress»  
«Admin\_AdjCity», CA «Admin\_AdjZip»

Dear «Admin\_FirstName»:

In accordance with Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP) Policy 21A “Encounter Data Submission Requirements”, all Providers must meet timeliness, validity, and adequacy requirements for all encounter data submissions to IEHP as follows:

- **Timeliness** Encounter Data must be received within three (3) months after the month in which services were rendered to the Member.
- **Validity** A compilation of the initial monthly submission and any subsequently corrected data for the same month must be at least 95% valid.
- **Adequacy** A compilation of the initial monthly submission and any subsequently corrected data for the same month must meet the following adequacy standards:

Medical (Non-SPD) –IPA: 417 Total Encounters per month per 1000 members.  
 Medical (SPD) – IPA: 1084 Total Encounters per month per 1000 members.  
 Hospital – 14 Inpatient encounters per month per 1000 members.  
 Hospital ER – 19 Emergency encounters per month per 1000 members.

Upon review of «Entity\_Name»’s encounter data submissions due to IEHP «Due\_Date», the data failed to meet IEHP requirements in the area(s) noted below:

Standard Not Met	IEHP Requirement	Reported	Months Non-Compliant

Please understand that because the above standards were not met as indicated and, as outlined in the IEHP Capitated Agreement, «Entity\_Name»’s capitation will be reduced by «Penalty%». Therefore, a «Penalty%» penalty will be reflected in your «Cap\_Check\_Date» capitation check.

IEHP's ultimate goal is to receive complete and accurate encounter data in a timely manner. If you have any questions or to avoid future penalties, you may contact the IEHP HelpDesk at (909) 890-2025 for additional support.

Sincerely,

Director of Encounter and EDI

cc: «Encounter\_Name», «Encounter\_Title»  
«Claims\_Manager»  
«CC\_Encounter»  
«PSR\_Name», «PSR\_Title»  
IEHP Chief Operating Officer, «File\_Code»  
IEHP Vice President, Quality  
IEHP Director, Advanced Technology  
IEHP Director, Healthcare Informatics