

WHAIC Survey Updates

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December 2019

HOLIDAY HOURS

December 24 – Close at noon

December 25 – CLOSED

December 31 – Close at noon

January 1 – CLOSED



*The WHA Information Center
wishes you a safe and happy
holiday season!*

Significant Survey Updates and Changes!

Thank you to attendees of the survey breakout sessions at the Data Collection & Quality Reporting Conference on October 30, 2019! The feedback was very positive proving you are as excited about these changes as I am.

A copy of the full presentation can be found on our website under the Survey Resources Tab, [2019 Annual Survey Training PowerPoint](#).

Please review the PowerPoint carefully as there are many changes. Affirmations, Medicare Cost Report (MCR) Schedule C's, and explanations required for edits will no longer be accepted via email.

As 2019 comes to a close and we prepare to usher in a new decade, I wanted to take a moment again to thank you for your patience while we made several significant improvements to the current Survey Process. Your willingness to collaborate and share your experiences, opinions, and suggestions has been an invaluable tool that allowed us to deliver on those promises made last year.

What's Changed?

- **Going Green – NEW Affirmation Process and PORTAL Changes**
 - Users must **Complete Affirmations and edits electronically**. ***NOTE we will no longer send emails!
 - Users must electronically sign and submit affirmation through the portal.
 - Users must submit a **comment on Action Edits** (formerly known as Stats Edits) electronically, should one be required.

- Once all surveys have been submitted, users are able to reopen surveys and rerun reports to make changes without contacting WHAIC staff. Reports will automatically run and update user when survey changes are made and resubmitted.
- **NEW:** Users must upload **Medicare Cost Report Schedule C** to the portal.
- **Timelines Updated!**
 - Annual, Fiscal, Personnel and Uncompensated Survey Submission timelines condensed, while remaining compliant with the statute, to be more user friendly and efficient for both the hospital and WHAIC staff to manage.
 - March – June FYE has a later deadline and extended deadline to better align with the CMS Medicare Cost Report (MCR) submission dates.
 - July – December FYE Extended deadline better aligns with the CMS MCR as the same or later than the CMS deadline.
 - <https://www.whainfocenter.com/uploads/PDFs/SurveyManual/SurveyTimeline.pdf>
- **Survey Roles**
 - Primary, Secondary, and User roles better defined.
 - Primary Users will receive all communication from WHAIC.
 - Primary and Secondary Users have the authority to electronically sign and submit affirmation statement and upload Medicare Cost Report Schedule C.
 - For more information click [here](#).
- **UPDATE: Fiscal Survey Application (You asked, we delivered 😊)**
 - Commas are now acceptable and may be used when entering numbers or dollars.
 - When rounding numbers greater than 200,000 a difference of +/- \$5 will be allowed to bypass edits.
- **Survey Homepage Changes**
 - **NEW:** Four New Useful links at top of page to get you quickly to the [Survey Timeline](#), [Survey Manual](#), [Survey Resources](#), and [Data Deliverables](#) (to sign your affirmation statement and upload your Medicare Cost Report Schedule C).
 - **NEW:** Message Center – reference this section for updates on Survey changes, due dates and newsletters.
 - **NEW look** to the Hospital Survey Grid – Example: Instead of an icon, text to let you know where you are in the survey submission process; Red or Green column heading will let you know if you need to take action!
 - **NEW:** Authorized Users for Selected Hospital Section. Pay particular attention to the names and roles to those in your organization that have access or should have access to various survey roles.

Spread the word! I will host a Webinar on January 22, 2020 at 2pm detailing everything in this update along with the **Going Green** process. See last page for more information or login to the portal and review notes at the bottom.

[2019 WHA Data Collection/Quality Reporting Conference Recap](#)

This past October, the second annual survey training and educational session was offered. While data collection and submissions (whether it's for discharge data or survey data) can deceptively appear to be yet another administrative task, numerous presenters highlighted both the use of these data and how analysis can lead to impressive health care improvements.

“Facts and data lead to health care improvements, plain and simple,” Borgerding said. “Compiling those facts and data is where WHAIC is so valuable, and therefore how all of you who supply that data are, too.”

Wisconsin Hospital Association can help you stay up to date on health care issues at both the state and federal level by signing up for their weekly newsletter, the [Valued Voice](#).

As stated during the Survey Training, the data provided through the Annual and Fiscal surveys is a significant component of the data collection efforts and publications offered and produced by WHAIC staff, this information is compiled for multiple purposes and located on our website under [Services and Publications](#).

Survey Manual Changes

A new manual is in development to better serve and educate **New Survey Portal Users**, including reopening surveys, explanation of the summary reports, edits, uploading of Medicare Cost reports and returning affirmations. We expect to post the new manual by February 15, 2020 at <https://www.whainfocenter.com/> under the [Survey Submission Manual](#) section.

Finally, we are in the process of reviewing the Annual and Fiscal Survey instructions and questions. To make this process more efficient and intuitive for all survey users. Once complete, we will list any changes made for you to review and share with others in your hospital.

New Documentation Requirements for Filing Medicare Cost Reports

During a recent NGS call, WHAIC was made aware of a new MLN Matters resource available for providers who are required to file Medicare cost reports.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

SE19015 reminds providers of the new documentation requirements for filing Medicare Cost Reports that were published in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Final Rule.”

For more information: <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE19015.pdf>

Upcoming Training and Events

Going Green 101

January 22, 2020 at 2pm

Phone: 866-365-4406

Access Code: 5371153

[WebEx](#)



QUESTION:

What question(s) on the Annual Survey are used to calculate the DSH Medicaid payment?

ANSWER:

Total Medicaid Inpatient Days divided by Total Inpatient Days

**Criteria for DSH - needs to be at least 6%