

News and Highlights

837 Updates and Progress

Fall Training: This fall, WHAIC will be providing training for hospitals and ASCs on the transition to the 837 file submission format. In order to provide you with ample time to plan for travel and time away from your facility, the fall training dates are listed below.

Fall training will focus exclusively on the 837 technical requirements, 837 Companion guides, FAQs and how to read your file. These training sessions are critical to understanding the expectations of the 837 file, the data submission process, correcting edits and how Wlpop works.

Since the transition to an 837 file submission is a major change, we have added two additional locations to our regular training schedule. If needed, we will consider adding other locations and/or times to make sure all sites are fully equipped and prepared to submit data in the new 837 file format. We will send out a survey to determine a timeframe most suitable to ASCs.

Fall Training Schedule:

Thursday, September 7	Madison – Wisconsin Hospital Association
Wednesday, September 13	Wisconsin Dells – Wintergreen Resort
Thursday, September 14	Green Bay – Tundra Lodge
Tuesday, September 19	Madison – Wisconsin Hospital Association
Wednesday, September 27	Wausau – Holiday Inn <i>*Primary focus will be on the ASC use of 837P file*</i>
Thursday, September 28	Rice Lake – WITC
Friday, September 29	Pewaukee – Holiday Inn

Registration links to the fall training will be available in late July or early August.

837 Test Site: The 837 test site is available and ready for your test files. We are asking you to analyze your data by comparing your current extract file side-by-side with the new 837 file. To do this, you will need to submit your current text file to the Wlpop ICD-10 Test site and submit your new 837 file to the Wlpop 837 Test site.

Early testing will help your facility and WHAIC ensure all aspects of the 837 file submission are ready in advance of the mandatory submissions deadline for January 1, 2018 dates of service.

For hospitals that submit data using the repetitive services type of record, keep in mind that when you are testing and doing comparative analysis, the place of service category will no longer be used. All revenue codes in the mapping scheme have a distinct place of service. Do not be alarmed if you see a higher number of therapy records or other outpatient records than you are historically accustomed to.

For your convenience – and to aid in your testing and analysis - WHAIC has created batch comparison reports. The reports are designed to analyze the data from the test file submitted to the **Wipop 837 TEST** site against the current extract ‘text’ file you should have also submitted to the **Wipop ICD-10 TEST**. The reports can and should be run from both test regions (Wipop 837 Test and Wipop ICD10 Test). The reports are intended to match up records in both test sites by facility, quarter, and pcontrol. They will identify pcontrols that exist in one region but not the other. For the pcontrols that match, the field values are compared, with discrepancies identified on the report. If you would like help reviewing your reports or performing data analysis, do not hesitate to contact us.

837 Documentation: The WHAIC website / 837 Implementation tab is continuously updated. Be sure to check often for any updates. Many facilities have already sent us some very good questions surrounding the 837 file set up. We have created an [FAQ](#) in order to share these questions – and their respective answers – with you.

837 Forum: Remember to use the new forum to submit 837 related questions. This is the hotspot for you to ask questions and find answers to your questions. While we are always happy to answer your questions no matter how you send them, the forum can be a great way to get answers without waiting on emails or returned phone calls.

WHAIC 837 File Handler (aka Black Box): This program is available for download at http://www.whainfocenter.com/WHAIC_837_Handler.zip. Hospitals and ASCs have the option of using this program for automating the replacement of the patient name in the 837 file with the correct UCID and ECID values. The program is also designed to allow users to submit the 837 files directly to Wipop, without the need to manually post the file using a web-browser.

The Wipop Black Box has a graphical user interface (GUI), or for more automation you can use batch file commands to run a Windows console program with passed parameters. The zip file (in the link provided) contains more information, as well as instructions and test files for facilities that prefer to use their own code for the UCID/ECID calculation.

Working with Vendors: WHAIC has participated in a few vendor teleconference calls to go over the file parameters and address specific questions pertaining to the 837 file requirements and limitations. Do not hesitate to make arrangements for our team to participate in any discussions related to creating and mapping the 837 file. We find these calls very useful and encouraging as a collaborative partner with you and your vendor.

** PLEASE do not wait until Q4 to begin the project planning for the 837 transition. WHAIC cannot program your file or develop a transition plan for your facility.*

Present and Future Data Submission Reminders

- WHAIC will be mapping the place of service using the revenue codes supplied on the file, and the current hierarchy structure will continue to be followed. That said, we are continuing to refine our own

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internal mapping and may contact your facility if codes are coming in that we are unable to recognize as acceptable or are unable to correctly map to an existing place of service.

- Current extract updates are unnecessary unless you are working with WHAIC to address specific changes identified in your particular situation that may cause concern on the 837 file. For example, hospitals that use the generic type of bill 0999 will need to update their mapping and internal processes as this does not exist in the 837 file. We are addressing this now so that we can perform accurate comparisons of file formats. For self-pay, use the type of bill that would have gone on the claim had one been created. A new edit was posted for Q1 2017 to avoid use of the 0999 generic bill type.
- Effective with Q217, data may be submitted using either the current or the new commercial payer 'A' codes in advance of the 837 required format. We understand that advanced mapping may be necessary due to limited resources or limitations to the internal database structure within your facility. For that reason we will allow the current extract to contain the new codes starting in Q2. Additional codes were added, so be sure you are referencing the most current Expected [Source of Payment Appendix](#). WHAIC staff used the 2017 OCI list of commercial payers to develop the reference map. However, if during your mapping process there are commercial payers that are not on the list, you may contact us to update our database accordingly.
- Please keep [Section 5](#) of the 837 Companion Guide and Technical Specification in mind when discussing the programming of the file.

Wlpop Online Training

Did you miss the spring training? Are there new Wlpop users in your facility that need Wlpop training?

Now you can find the training you need online using our web-based video tutorial training material. Using the web-based training video allows you the opportunity and freedom to decide what works best for you and your schedule. The video is located on our website in the Data Submitters / Wlpop Compliance and IC Updates section under [Training Videos](#).