

The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has adopted ASC X12 version 5010 and NCPDP version D.0 as the next HIPAA standard for HIPAA covered transactions. The final rule was published on January 16, 2009. Some of the important dates in the implementation process are:

Effective Date of the regulation: March 17, 2009
Level I Compliance by: December 31, 2010
Level II Compliance by: December 31, 2011
All covered entities have to be fully compliant on: January 1, 2012

Level I compliance means *"that a covered entity can demonstrably create and receive compliant transactions, resulting from the compliance of all design/build activities and internal testing."*

Level II compliance means *"that a covered entity has completed end-to-end testing with each of its trading partners, and is able to operate in production mode with the new versions of the standards."*

The new regulation facilitates the United States' ongoing transition to an electronic healthcare environment through adoption of updated standards for electronic healthcare transactions, and finally, through the adoption of new code sets for coding diagnoses and inpatient hospital procedure codes.

Because CSC's PAPERS® product supports every phase of the revenue cycle, we are taking a proactive enterprise-wide approach to focus on all HIPAA-mandated transaction sets and ensure compliance with the new formats within all of our products.

CSC has established a core team of representatives from our technology, product management, and customer service teams to analyze your needs from both a technical and procedural standpoint as we move forward with developing the required solutions.

CSC began analysis in late 2009 with full-scale internal testing scheduled to begin July 2010. CSC expects to provide client-based testing in calendar Q4 2010 or earlier if possible, based on the availability of customers' payor-compliant transaction sets. Throughout 2010 and beyond, CSC will strive to communicate ongoing plans and progress and will notify you of your options for scheduling testing with us as soon as they become available.

HHS permits dual use of existing standards (4010A1 and 5.1) and the new standards (5010 and D.0) from the March 17, 2009 effective date until the January 1, 2012 compliance date to facilitate testing subject to trading partner agreement.

Regulations ASC X12 version 5010 and NCPDP version D.0 may be viewed at:
<http://search.usa.gov/search?locale=en&v%3Aproject=firstgov-eb&query=asc+x12+version+5010&USA.gov+Search=Search>

A comparison of regulations 4010 and 5010 may be viewed at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/browse.html>
Click "Go" next to the 2009 selection box for "Back Issues (HTML Only)."

Finally, a fact sheet describing both rules may be viewed at: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/apps/media/fact_sheets.asp

Should you wish to discuss this in more detail with us, please feel free to call us at 1-800-646-4272.

Thanks you.