



## Designated Standard Maintenance Organizations

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**Report to the  
National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics  
June 17, 2013**

The Designated Standards Maintenance Organizations (DSMO) thanks the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS) for the opportunity to present our 2012 Annual Report on our work to address the changes, challenges, and opportunities affecting the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) administrative transaction standards.

As you are aware, the DSMO is comprised of six organizations. The three standards development organizations are the Accredited Standards Committee X12 (ASC X12), HL7 International, and National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP). The three data content committees are the American Dental Association's Dental Content Committee (DeCC), National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC), and National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC). The DSMO Steering Committee is made up of two representatives from each of the six organizations, as well as representatives from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Office of eHealth Standards and Services (OESS).

Collectively, the DSMO reviews change requests to the current HIPAA-designated standards and for new standards and code sets to be adopted. A change request can be made by anyone by completing the change request form found on the HIPAA-DSMO website. Each DSMO organization can opt-in to review the change request and discuss the merits of the request within their organization. Each DSMO organization has 90 days to review the change requests, with the option to request a 45-day extension, if additional time is needed. Once the DSMO organizations complete their review, the DSMO Steering Committee meets to discuss the review and final disposition from each DSMO organization. The DSMO Steering Committee identifies the final DSMO response for each change request, which is then published on the DSMO website.

For the period January 2012 through December 2012, there were 14 change requests submitted. Two were withdrawn by the submitter, one was withdrawn by the web administrator because it was not a valid DSMO request, and eleven were subsequently reviewed by the DSMO. One request was approved as a modification necessary to permit compliance with the standard and/or law. Two requests were approved as modifications to the existing standard. Two requests were approved as maintenance to the existing standard. The final six requests resulted in no changes. The attached report provides details of each change request and its disposition.

### Other DSMO Work

Since the previous report, the DSMO has continued to follow the work of the NCVHS, standards

development organizations, data content committees, and operating rules authoring entity as their work relates to the provisions of administrative simplification. In March 2012, the DSMO reviewed the four letters sent to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) by NCVHS. Specific attention was given to the letter regarding additional analysis of the update and maintenance process for standards and operating rules. Over the years, the DSMO has provided extensive input on the update and maintenance process for standards and stands ready to continue to provide input to NCVHS on this important topic.

The DSMO also continued to review potential enhancements for its website. This work was in response to feedback received from NCVHS in 2011. The DSMO educational presentation was posted to the website and other minor updates were made to the website to make it more user-friendly. The DSMO members have included links to the educational material on their websites.

The DSMO looks forward to continuing to work with NCVHS on our joint interests for administrative simplification efforts.