

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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HIPAA Administrative Simplification Information Bulletin

December 12, 2024

Subject: Notice Regarding Publication of Final Rule: Administrative Simplification: Modifications of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Retail Pharmacy Standards; and Modification of the Medicaid Subrogation Standard CMS-0056-F

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is issuing this Information Bulletin to inform our stakeholders of the [Notice Regarding Publication of the Final Rule \(CMS-0056-F\)](#) that is being displayed on December 12 and published on December 13 in the Federal Register. This final rule adopts updated versions of the retail pharmacy standards for electronic transactions adopted under the Administrative Simplification subtitle of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

Background

On August 21, 1996, Congress amended Title XI of the Social Security Act (the Act) to add a new Part C, titled "Administrative Simplification," which required the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to adopt standards for certain transactions to enable health information to be exchanged more efficiently and to achieve greater uniformity in the transmission of health information. Because the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations apply to the entire health care industry, not just Medicare providers and suppliers, the Secretary administers HIPAA and is the signatory for HIPAA rulemaking. In 2009, the Secretary delegated the responsibility of HIPAA rulemaking to CMS.

The Affordable Care Act reinforced the HIPAA Administrative Simplification requirements, which require the Secretary to adopt and regularly update electronic transaction standards, code set standards, unique identifiers, and operating rules for the electronic exchange and use of health information for health insurance administration.

What Will This Final Rule Do

This final rule adopts updated versions of the retail pharmacy standards for electronic transactions adopted under the Administrative Simplification subtitle of HIPAA. The modifications adopted in this rule are named the NCPDP Telecommunication Standard Implementation Guide, Version F6 (Version F6) and equivalent NCPDP Batch Standard Implementation Guide, Version 15 (Version 15); and NCPDP Batch Standard Medicaid Subrogation Implementation Guide, Version 10. Version F6 and Version 15 are modifications to the currently adopted standards for the following retail pharmacy transactions: health care claims or equivalent encounter information; eligibility for a health plan; referral certification and authorization; and coordination of benefits. NCPDP Batch Standard Medicaid Subrogation Implementation Guide, Version 10 modified the standard for Medicaid pharmacy subrogation transactions.

If you have questions about this Information Bulletin, or other topics related to the adopted standards or operating rules, please send them to administrativesimplification@cms.hhs.gov.

For more information about Administrative Simplification requirements, visit go.cms.gov/adminsimp. For the latest news about Administrative Simplification, [sign up for Email Updates](#).