Benefits from the Conversion of Medicaid Encounter Data Reporting System to SAS Enterprise Guide

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Abstract

- Kaiser Permanente Northwest is contractually obligated to submit Medicaid Encounter data for medical and pharmacy claims to Oregon and Washington state agencies.

- SAS programs are used to extract claims data from Kaiser’s Claims Data Warehouse, process the data, and produce output files in HIPAA ASC X12 and NCPDP format.

- In April 2014, the system was converted from SAS 8.2 running on a VAX Server to SAS Enterprise Guide 5.1 running on UNIX.

Drivers for Upgrade

- Need for scalability (ACA)
- Performance issues with existing system
- Incomplete process reporting and notification to business owners
- Highly manual, labor-intensive process of running individual programs

Results

- Consolidation of duplicative code
  - Number of programs reduced from 190 to 15
  - 90% reduction in lines of code
- Replacement of undocumented, possibly erroneous business decisions with documented business rules
- Addition of data sources and re-ordering of processing, to exclude hard-coding
- Capture of errors early in the code
- Implementation of an automated error reporting system
- Estimated cost reduction from $1.30 per reported encounter to $0.13 per encounter
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Process

• Control program used to set options for weekly outputs
• Extract program selects data from Claims Data Warehouse
• Reporting program
• Submission program creates Professional, Institutional, and Pharmacy files
  • New encounters
  • Adjustments to previously submitted encounters
• Manual step to verify files and ftp to appropriate sites.
• Process response files from Oregon and Washington Medicaid programs
• Update Master file with results

Automated Reports

• Automated reports include graphs, charts, and additional detailed excel reports of processing results
• Emailed to Business Partners Weekly

Monthly Medicaid Backlog by Type - June 26, 2014