Quick Notes

Access to Safe, Quality Healthcare Environments that Meet California's Dynamic and Diverse Needs

Issue No. 50   *May 17, 2018*

IP Inpatient Discharges   **ED** Emergency Department   **AS** Ambulatory Surgery

SPECIAL EDITION
2019 Regulatory Changes
Get IT Involved Today!

Next year will bring important changes to MIRCal reporting that require preparation today. As discussed in recent issues #47, #48, and #49, data requirements will significantly change for all data types reported to MIRCal beginning with the January 1, 2019, data. If you would like to review the regulatory text, you may view it on our Regulation page.

This issue of Quick Notes will focus on the new requirements in more detail. In each section below, the new values to be reported in 2019 are on the right of the tables.

Date File Format Increasing

The File Formats for Inpatient (IP) as well as Emergency Department(ED) and Ambulatory Surgery (AS) data will change for 2019 data. IP record length will increase from 670 to 1231 characters. ED and AS record lengths will increase from 406 to 583. You can confirm you are using the correct format by using the File Format Testing link in MIRCal. Only transmittal edits will be applied when using this tool.

Total Charges
NEW for ED/AS

Total Charges is a new data element for ED and AS Data. Total Charges is defined as all charges for services rendered during the encounter for patient care at the facility, based on the facility's full established rates. Please refer to the Reporting Manuals for a complete description. The Total Charges field length will be 8 digits for all data types.

Other Procedures/External Causes of Morbidity

One of the reason for the file format increase is to expand the number of codes allowed for some data elements. The number of Other Procedures allowed will increase to 24. The number of External Cause of Morbidity codes allowed will increase to 12. Also, there is no longer a distinction between Principal and Other External Cause of Morbidity codes.

ZIP Codes

ED/AS ZIP Code values will change to align with IP values.

ED/AS ZIP Code Categories through December 31, 2018	ED/AS ZIP Code Categories beginning January 1, 2019
99999 = Unknown/ Foreign/Homeless	XXXXX Unknown
	YYYYY Foreign
	ZZZZZ Homeless

Regulation was also changed for all data types specifying that the patient's ZIP Code at admission or at the start of care must be reported. This means that if a patient is homeless at admission but is later discharged to a residence, ZZZZZ Homeless must be reported. Never report the ZIP Code of the hospital, third party payer, or billing address if it is different from the usual residence of the patient.

2017 Data Elements cont.

Race & Ethnicity
Multiple Races Collected

One of the more significant data changes for all three data types is that patients can now self-declare up to five Races. *Your facility must have the capability of collecting five race values per patient effective with 2019 data.* It is essential that your facility's Admissions Department is involved with this change.

For Inpatient, the Race and Ethnicity values have been updated to align them with ED/AS values.

Inpatient RACE Categories through December 31, 2018	Inpatient RACE Categories beginning January 1, 2019
1 White	R1 American Indian or Alaska Native
2 Black	R2 Asian
3 Native American/ Eskimo/Aleut	R3 Black or African American
4 Asian/Pacific Islander	R4 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
5 Other	R5 White
6 Unknown	R9 Other Race
	99 Unknown

Inpatient ETHNICITY Categories through December 31, 2018	Inpatient ETHNICITY Categories beginning January 1, 2019
1 Hispanic	E1 Hispanic or Latino
2 Non-Hispanic	E2 Non Hispanic or Latino
3 Unknown	99 Unknown

Sample Race & Ethnicity Collection Tools are available on our website for your facility's use but are not an OSHPD requirement. Data is most accurate when patients are allowed to self-identify their own race and ethnicity. Additionally, when a patient is not capable of self-reporting during their treatment at your facility, the patient's family member or guardian may report that information for the individual.

Present on Admission - Exempt

Beginning in 2019, Present on Admission indicators for exempt Diagnoses and External Causes of Morbidity codes must be reported as "blank." Currently the reporting of "1" or "E" is accepted, but this will end with December 31, 2018 data.

POA through December 31, 2018	POA beginning January 1, 2019
Exempt – Report as blank, 1 or E	Exempt – Report as blank

We hope this issue will prove helpful to you as you implement the new 2019 changes at your facility. If you need assistance in reviewing your file format, there are tools such as Notepad ++ which will support the new data file lengths. If you have further questions, please contact your assigned MIRCal analyst. Analysts will be reaching out to Primary Contacts in June to confirm all facilities are aware of the new requirements.

CHIA 2018
We'd love to chat

Representatives from multiple areas within OSHPD will be attending and speaking at the 2018 CHIA Convention in San Diego beginning June 2nd.

We would love to see you at our presentation session. We encourage you to seek us out at any time during the convention to discuss the regulatory changes and ask questions.

We hope to see you there!