



Aetna Provider eSolutionsSM

Electronic Remittance Advice

5010 Transaction Upgrade Regulatory Update August 2010

The 5010 Transaction Upgrade

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published a final rule January 16, 2009 adopting X12 Version 5010 for HIPAA electronic health care transactions. Exclusive use of version 5010 by HIPAA Covered Entities is required by **January 1, 2012**. (Visit the [HHS website](#) for details.)

If you electronically submit or receive provider transactions (claim, claim status inquiry, eligibility, referral, precertification or electronic remittance advice), you may notice some differences in the information you need to input, as well as information you receive in the transaction response. These changes may occur at different times between August 2010 and December 2011, depending on whether the required changes are performed by Aetna or the vendors or clearinghouses involved in processing your transactions.

Aetna will provide information about the changes we are making at [Aetna.com](#). Information specific to [Aetna's secure provider website](#) via NaviNet[®] and [Aetna EDI ConnectSM](#) will be made available on those websites as well. Your vendor or clearinghouse should also offer you specific information on the changes that may affect you.

Aetna will have its suite of upgraded transactions available for testing by **directly connected vendors and clearinghouses** as early as **January 1, 2011**. If you submit your transactions using vendor software through a clearinghouse or a vendor website, we recommend you review their information sources or contact them to discuss their 5010 timeline. You may also wish to ask your vendor or clearinghouse about specific changes you'll experience based on changes they will be implementing.

Highlights

This document will cover:

- National Provider Identifier (NPI) Enforcement
- New Information that will be sent in the 5010 Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA)
 - Prior to November 2010
 - Prior to January 2012
- 5010 Readiness

While we have outlined the changes we are aware of in ERA transactions based on the 5010 transaction upgrade, how your vendor presents these changes may differ. Please contact your vendor for information on other changes you may experience.

NPI Enforcement

Federal regulations require you to identify yourself using your NPI in HIPAA-standard electronic transactions. Aetna will reject any HIPAA version 5010 transaction that does not include an NPI as your primary identifier. For more information, [refer to FAQs](#).

NPI exemption for noncovered entities

If you are not a health care provider as defined under HIPAA and the regulations do not apply to you, your transactions will be processed with other identifiers if we have been advised of your exempt status. To notify us of your noncovered entity status, submit the [NPI Exemption Notification Form](#).

New Information that will be sent in the 5010 ERA

Prior to November 2010

- Aetna will begin sending product brand name and network ID for HMO claims. (Aetna will continue to send product brand name and network ID for non-HMO claims.)

Note: This change will appear in both version 5010 and version 4010 ERAs.

Prior to January 2012

- Aetna will begin sending the "Corrected Priority Payer Name" when Aetna receives a claim submitted as primary and Aetna has secondary coverage for the claim
- Aetna will begin sending the "Coverage Expiration Date" for members whose coverage has expired
- Aetna will begin sending the "Claim Covered Amount"
- Aetna will begin returning the "Patient Paid Amount" that was submitted in the claim

While we do not anticipate that you will see any differences in your ERA transactions other than those noted above, we recommend you contact your electronic transaction vendor for details.

5010 Readiness

- If you use a Web-based solution, refer to the appropriate website(s) for information about 5010 transaction changes.
- If you receive electronic transactions using computer software, contact your computer system vendor support area for assistance.
- We recommend you obtain any necessary software upgrades well in advance to help ensure successful transition before the January 1, 2012 compliance date.
- Check with your vendor or software supplier about their 5010 readiness and testing plan.