ForwardHealth ICD-10 Testing Environment Capabilities and Resources

This ForwardHealth International Classification of Diseases, 10th revision (ICD-10) Testing Environment Capabilities and Resources document is designed to provide testing environment information necessary to conduct International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) and International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Procedure Coding System (ICD-10-PCS) fee-for-service testing with ForwardHealth. Please review this testing environment information and share relevant topics with your vendors, trading partners, and/or clearinghouses as necessary.

Supporting External Testing Environment Overview

ForwardHealth ICD-10 external entity testing will be conducted in the Supporting External Testing Environment (SETE). This environment closely mirrors the ForwardHealth Portal, which stakeholders currently use to conduct ongoing business with ForwardHealth. The SETE allows testers to test using their existing provider and trading partner account(s) while interacting with existing member information.

Environment Access/Login Credentials

The SETE is accessed using current ForwardHealth Portal login credentials. If ForwardHealth Portal login credentials change and/or need to be updated, the SETE credentials will automatically mimic those changes.

The SETE will be accessible to testers via a separate distinctive URL no later than June 2, 2015. This URL will be published to the ForwardHealth’s ICD-10 Code Set Testing home page.

Note: Because the SETE Portal closely mirrors the production environment, it is important for testers to ensure they are conducting testing activities in the correct environment. To help alert testers, the SETE pages include banner messaging indicating to users that they are logged in to the SETE Portal.

Using ICD-10 Codes in the Testing Environment

Only 2015 dates should be indicated on test transactions. Claims submitted with International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD-9) and ICD-10 codes will need to account for the SETE-specific testing effective and end dates.

The following effective and end dates for ICD-10 codes have been adjusted in the SETE to support ICD-10 testing activities:

- ICD-9 codes are end dated on February 28, 2015.
- ICD-10 codes are effective on March 1, 2015.

Testing Environment Refreshes and Availability

Because the SETE is a copy of the production environment, it will need to be refreshed in order to accurately support testing. Because of this, as time passes between environment refreshes, changes may occur in the production environment that are not reflected in the SETE. When a refresh occurs, testers should be aware that the SETE shall be “wiped clean,” removing all prior testing data. This will allow the SETE to catch up to data changes that have occurred in the production environment. During these scheduled refresh windows, the SETE will be unavailable to support testing.

There are two scheduled refreshes to SETE:


The SETE will be unavailable for testing activities on Sunday and Monday each week. Attempts to access and test within SETE during this timeframe may fail and will not be supported. Testing activities are limited to Tuesday through Saturday.

Testing with the Testing Environment

The SETE is designed to allow testers to submit test files using the same methods they use to conduct day-to-day business with ForwardHealth. The following transaction types are accepted in the SETE:

- 270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response (270/271). The 270 is the electronic transaction for inquiring about a member's enrollment. The 271 is received in response to the inquiry.
- 276/277 Health Care Claim Status Request and Response (276/277). The 276 is the electronic transaction for checking claim status. The 277 is received in response.

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- 835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice (835). The electronic transaction for receiving remittance information.
- 837 Health Care Claim: Dental (837D). The electronic transaction for submitting dental claims and adjustment requests.
- 837 Health Care Claim: Professional (837P). The electronic transaction for submitting professional claims and adjustment requests.
- 999 Functional Acknowledgment (999). The electronic transaction for reporting whether a transaction is accepted or rejected.
- TA1 Interchange Acknowledgment. The electronic transaction for reporting a transaction that is rejected for interChange-level errors.

The following batch and the real-time point-of-sale National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Version D.0 Telecommunication Standard for Retail Pharmacy Claims and their respective responses are supported in the SETE:
- B1.
- B2.
- P2 Reversal.
- P3 Inquiry.
- P4 Request.

For testers who use the Provider Electronic Solutions (PES) software to conduct business with ForwardHealth, please download the PES SETE Setup Guide available on the ICD-10 Code Set Testing home page. A SETE-specific esc.ini file is also available, which will enable PES software to interface with the SETE.

Environment Limitations

Please note the following limitations of the SETE:
- Prior authorization (PA) is not supported in the SETE, claims requiring PA will be denied.
  - The SETE is a point-in-time copy of the production environment, which means there may be instances when an approved PA in production is copied to SETE during a “refresh” that would match to a test claim in SETE, allowing that claim to be processed. This scenario would only occur when using ICD-9 codes on test claims. (Testers should note that a test claim matching a production PA will not impact the production PA.)
- Due to the SETE refreshes, testing data in the SETE prior to a refresh will be deleted from the environment following refreshes and cannot be retrieved.

Other Resources

Review both the Frequently Asked Questions About ICD-10 Testing with ForwardHealth and the ICD-10 Testing Readiness Checklist before conducting ICD-10 testing with ForwardHealth.