CHAPTER 3
SECTION 1

OVERVIEW

1.0. TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY (TMA) EDITING SYSTEM

TMA relies upon the data received from the contractor to account for the expenditure of government funds and to develop statistical information. This information is used for the analysis of the TRICARE program, for reporting to Congress, and the Executive Branch, and for developing trends and budget projections. TMA processes health care data received from the contractor through the TMA editing system, as described in Chapter 3 through Chapter 8 to ensure the accuracy and integrity of its database. There are two basic types of edits in the TMA editing system:

1.1. Individual Data Element Validity Edits

Check the format, valid codes, limit value ranges, etc.

1.2. Relational Edits

Which ensure that two or more related data elements are in logical or computational compliance.

2.0. TMA ERROR MESSAGES

TMA edits generate error messages if the required conditions are not met. The two major parts of an error message are the error code and the error message text. The error codes are structured to identify the data element in error by using the Element Locator Number (ELN) as the first four digits.

2.1. Error Code Structure

The error codes have the following structure:

2.1.1. Four Characters

Element Locator Number (ELN) (followed by hyphen)

2.1.2. Two Digits

Number of the Error Code for a given element (01 if only one error code exists for a given element, there may be gaps in the sequence for an element)

2.1.3.   One Character

R - for relational edits

2.1.4.   Blank

For "individual" validity edits

NOTE: The error code on the Edit Error Report may have two additional digits which identify the unique number of the utilization/revenue occurrence within the HCSR.

3.0.   RELATIONAL ERROR CODES

For "relational" error codes, the ELN part of the error code represents an arbitrarily established leading data element in a relational edit.

4.0.   RELATIONAL ERROR MESSAGES

Chapter 3 through Chapter 8 contain a list of error messages sequenced by ELN. The top right part of each page identifies the type of record or records to which the edit applies. There are two parts to each edit - the validity edits and the relational edits.

4.1.   Relational Edits

The relational edits list all the data element names to which an element is related, listing the complete error code and defining the relationship. Where the relationship is part of a different ELN, the error code is shown for reference to be used in looking up the relationship. The information in Chapter 3 through Chapter 8 contain the pseudo code used by TMA to write the editing program modules. Additional edits or changes may be made by TMA to ensure that the data submitted is in compliance with the Policy Manual and the Operations Manual. Records rejected by the TMA editing system, accompanied by error reports, are sent to the contractor for correction and resubmission.

4.2.   Date Validity Edits

4.2.1.   Valid Gregorian Date

4.2.1.1.   Must be numeric

4.2.1.2.   Must be less than or equal to run date

4.2.1.3.   Month must be 1 through 12

4.2.1.4.   Day must be 1 through 28 when month is February and not a leap year.

4.2.1.5.   Day must be 1 through 29 when month is February and a leap year.

4.2.1.6.   Day must be 1 through 30 when month is April, June, September, or November.

4.2.1.7.   Day must be 1 through 31 when month is January, March, May, July, August, October, or December.

4.2.2.   Valid Julian Date

4.2.2.1.   Must be numeric

4.2.2.2.   Must be less than or equal to run date

4.2.2.3.   Day must be 1 through 365 for a non-leap year

4.2.2.4.   Day must be 1 through 366 for a leap year