HIPAA Testing Guidelines for Software Vendors

In an effort to ensure effective and efficient testing for our direct submitters, Anthem West EDI is planning to test with software vendors first. We will then test with individual submitters utilizing these software packages. This approach will help ensure that vendor software packages have the ability to exchange HIPAA-compliant transactions with Anthem and should reduce the amount of effort required of the direct submitter when testing directly with Anthem.

EDI Registration Form – Software Vendor Testing

- Complete the EDI Registration Form.
- Indicate “Vendor Testing” under the EDI Methodology Section
- Once the registration form is received, Anthem will assign a Sender ID for the vendor to use when testing their software.

Vendor Software Testing

- An EDI representative will be assigned to each vendor to assist during the testing process. The same EDI representative will also oversee testing for each direct submitter utilizing their software package.

- The vendor may elect to initially test their software either from their office location or from a client’s site. If from a client’s site, both the client and vendor will be approved for production once testing is successfully completed. No further testing will be required of the client.

- At a minimum, each vendor must pass 100% Level 1 edits (X12 Syntax), 95% Level 2 edits (HIPAA IG compliance including internal and external code sets) and 90% Level 3 edits (Anthem business edits). Level 3 edits only apply to the 837 Institutional and Professional transactions. Once this is achieved, Anthem will approve the vendor’s software package for the transaction that passed successful testing.

- Once the vendor tests successfully, Anthem EDI expects the vendor to apply any necessary changes to their software prior to distribution to the client’s site. Once these changes have been implemented, Anthem can begin testing with the vendor’s clients.
Client / Direct Submitter Testing

- Prior to client testing, the client must have the Anthem approved version of the vendor's software package installed at their site.

- The same EDI representative assigned to the vendor will also oversee the testing for each direct submitter utilizing their software package.

- At a minimum, each direct submitter must pass 100% Level 1 edits (X12 Syntax), 95% Level 2 edits (HIPAA IG compliance including internal and external code sets) and 90% Level 3 edits (Anthem business edits). Level 3 edits only apply to the 837 Institutional and Professional transactions. Once this is achieved, Anthem will approve the direct submitter for production status.

- We strongly encourage vendors to work directly with their assigned EDI representative during the testing of their clients, Anthem's direct submitters. This can be accomplished by the following:
  - Provide Anthem with a complete list of all your clients that submit directly to Anthem. This will reduce the number of phone calls Anthem may make to your clients to gather needed information.
  - Inform your EDI representative when clients have received the approved version of your software. Once again, this will reduce the number of phone call Anthem may make to your clients to obtain test readiness dates.

Additional Resources

We encourage all vendors and direct submitters to visit our NEW EDI web page.

From Anthem's home page (anthem.com), simply select "Providers" then click on the appropriate Anthem West state - Colorado or Nevada. Click on "EDI" and you will find the latest information on HIPAA Transactions and Code Sets including our new Companion Guide, Trading Partner Agreement, EDI Registration Form, transaction-specific Companion Documents, Anthem West HIPAA Readiness Dates, and other pertinent information needed to exchange HIPAA transactions with Anthem West.

For further information, please contact the West EDI Help Desk at (800) 332-7575.