



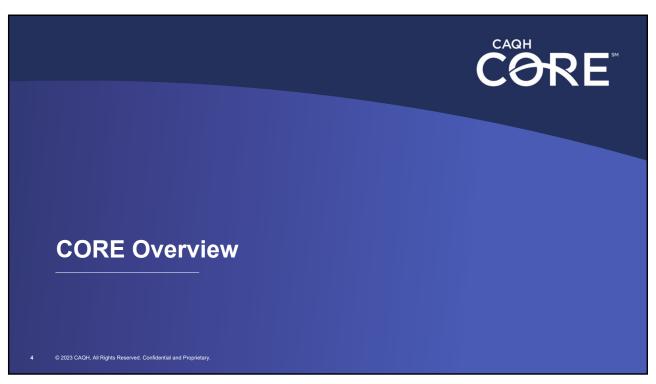
Agenda

- CAQH CORE Overview
- Federal Regulatory Activity
- 2023 Operating Rule Development
- CORE Certification Program
- · Call to Action

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3



CAQH CORE Mission & Vision Mission **Vision** Drive the creation and adoption of healthcare An industry-wide facilitator of a trusted, simple operating rules that support standards, and sustainable healthcare data exchange that accelerate interoperability and align evolves and aligns with market needs. administrative and clinical activities among providers, payers and consumers. Develop, Identify Drive Convene Measure Deploy Test & Needs Adoption **Impact** Industry Iterate

5

CAQH CORE: Who We Are

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Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange



Federally Designated by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as the National Operating Rule Authoring Entity for all HIPAA mandated administrative transactions.



Develop business rules to help industry effectively and efficiently use electronic standards while remaining technology- and standard-agnostic.

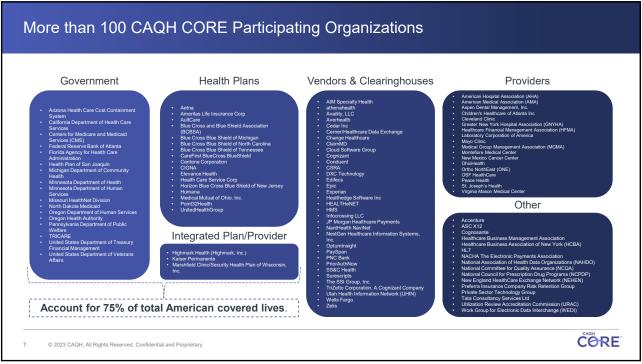


Multi-stakeholder Board Members include health plans, providers, vendors, and government entities. Advisors to the Board include SDOs.



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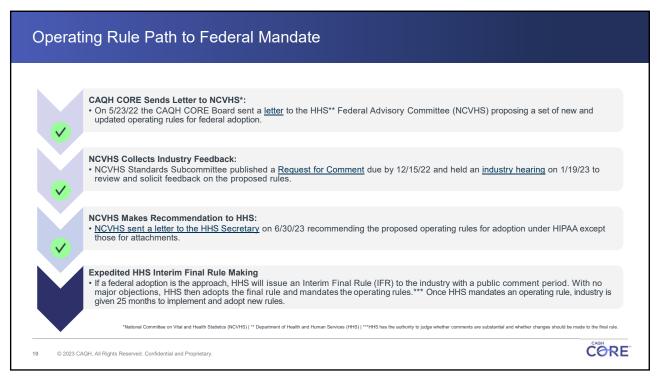
CAQH CORE Operating Rule Sets Support Electronic Transactions Across the Revenue Cycle Rule Set Infrastructure Connectivity Rule **Data Content** Other Single Patient Attribution Data Rule Eligibility (270/271)
Data Content Rule Eligibility & Benefits Claim Status (276/277) Infrastructure Rule Claim Status EFT/ERA (835/CCD+) Uniform Use of CARCs and RARCs (835) Rule Prior Authorization Web Portal Rule Prior Authorization (278) Data Content Rule Health Care Claims Data Content Rule*** Health Care Claim (837) Infrastructure Rule Attachments Health Care Claims Rules Health Care Claims Connectivity Rule vC4.0.0** Attributed Patient Roster (834) Data Content Rule Attributed Patient Roster (834) Infrastructure Rule Attributed Patient Rules in PURPLE boxes are federally mandated. Rules boxed in **BLUE** are new or updated as of Benefit Enrollment (834) Benefit Enrollment February 2022 (updates are not yet federally mandated). Premium Payment (820) Infrastructure Rule nium Payment ** Connectivity Rule vC4.0.0 can be used to support all rule sets for CORE Certification.

*** Rules being developed in 2023.

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7





CORE Proposal to NCVHS

On **May 23, 2022,** CORE submitted a letter to NCVHS asking them to recommend a set of new and updated operating rules to HHS for federal adoption.

Proposed Operating Rules		
Updated	CORE Eligibility and Benefits (270/271) Infrastructure Rule CORE Claim Status (276/277) Infrastructure Rule CORE Payment and Remittance (835) Infrastructure Rule	
Updated	CORE Connectivity Rule vC4.0.0	
Updated	CORE Eligibility and Benefits (270/271) Data Content Rule	
New	CORE Eligibility and Benefits (270/271) Single Patient Attribution Data Content Rule	
New	CORE Attachments Health Care Claims Infrastructure Rule CORE Attachments Health Care Claims Data Content Rule CORE Attachments Prior Authorization Infrastructure Rule CORE Attachments Prior Authorization Data Content Rule	

Content and benefit of each operating rule was presented at an NCVHS hearing on January 19, 2023.

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11

NCVHS Recommendation to HHS

On June 30, 2023 NCVHS made the following rulemaking recommendation to HHS:

Proposed Operating Rules		NCVHS Rulemaking Recommendation
Updated	CORE Eligibility and Benefits (270/271) Infrastructure Rule CORE Claim Status (276/277) Infrastructure Rule CORE Payment and Remittance (835) Infrastructure Rule	Recommended HHS conduct rulemaking to federally adopt
Updated	CORE Connectivity Rule vC4.0.0	Recommended HHS conduct rulemaking to federally adopt
Updated	CORE Eligibility and Benefits (270/271) Data Content Rule	Recommended HHS conduct rulemaking to federally adopt
New	CORE Eligibility and Benefits (270/271) Single Patient Attribution Data Content Rule	Recommended HHS conduct rulemaking to federally adopt
New	CORE Attachments Health Care Claims Infrastructure Rule CORE Attachments Health Care Claims Data Content Rule CORE Attachments Prior Authorization Infrastructure Rule CORE Attachments Prior Authorization Data Content Rule	Do not conduct rulemaking to adopt
CORE Certification Requirement Language		Do not conduct rulemaking to adopt (consistent with past recommendations)







Infrastructure Operating Rules

Infrastructure rules apply across transactions establishing basic expectations on how the US data exchange "system" works; e.g., ability to track response times across all trading partners.

Note: Infrastructure rules can be used with any version of a standard.



Rule Requirements

Each set of CAQH CORE Operating Rules includes an infrastructure rule with requirements including processing mode, response time, system availability, connectivity, acknowledgements, and companion guides, by transaction.

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13

Updated CORE Infrastructure Rules Eligibility, Claim Status & Remittance



Overview: The mandated CAQH CORE Infrastructure Rules* for eligibility, claim status, and remittance advice provide safe harbor connectivity and security standards and dictate requirements for system availability, uniform use of acknowledgements and processing time requirements. Updates provide enhanced security, greater system availability, flexibility to accommodate multiple payloads and conformance with the most current CORE Connectivity Rules.

Existing: HIPAA-mandated Infrastructure Rules

86% per calendar week N/A: Current Mandated CAQH CORE Infrastructure Rules do not include a quarterly system availability requirement Phase I & II Connectivity Rules (vC.1.1.0 & vC.2.2.0)

Companion guides must follow format and flow of CORE Master Companion Guide

Weekly System Availability

Quarterly System Availability

Connectivity Companion Guide

Updates: NCVHS Recommended Infrastructure Rules.

90% per calendar week

Health plans and their agents may use **24 additional hours** of system downtime per calendar quarter to accommodate larger system updates and maintenance

Most current CAQH CORE Connectivity Rule (vC.4.0.0)

Updates include support for the non-X12 transactions to accommodate multiple standards

*CAQH CORE Eligibility & Benefits (270/271) Infrastructure Rule; CAQH CORE Claims Status (276/277) Infrastructure Rule; CAQH CORE Payment & Remittance (835) Infrastructure Rule

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Updated CORE Infrastructure Rules Benefits to Industry











Updated infrastructure rules allow for increased system availability for providers, aligning with modern day business needs.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Aligns with today's technology given the 24/7 nature of healthcare and stakeholder needs to exchange data outside of regular business hours. Updates to system availability requirements increase up-time by 364 hours annually.
- ✓ The quarterly system downtime supports overall greater system availability while allowing for longer, less frequent periods of downtime in recognition that today's systems are more integrated than in the past.
- Providers will have improved access to needed data to better serve the patient at the time of service improving the revenue cycle, immediacy of care, and the patient experience.
- Aligns requirements to use the CORE Connectivity Rule v4.0.0 to encourage use of both existing and emerging technology.

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15

Newest Version of CORE Connectivity



Overview: The CAQH CORE Connectivity Rule vC4.0.0 is a single, uniform Connectivity Rule that supports administrative and clinical data exchange. The rule updates and aligns CAQH CORE connectivity & security requirements to support REST and other API technology, building upon prior versions of CAQH CORE Connectivity.

Existing: HIPAA-mandated Connectivity Rule

Key Requirements:

- Use of public internet connection and HTTP transport standards to establish an industry
- Sare Harbor

 Employs Username and Password with optional use of digital certificate for authentication

 Use of both SOAP and MIME messaging standards

 Defined metadata to relieve burden of implementation and reduce variances across industry

 Supports batch and real time interactions meeting industry needs

 Specifies error handling processes and messaging requirements

 Requires development and implementation of a capacity plan

Updates: NCVHS Recommended Connectivity Rule

Updates:

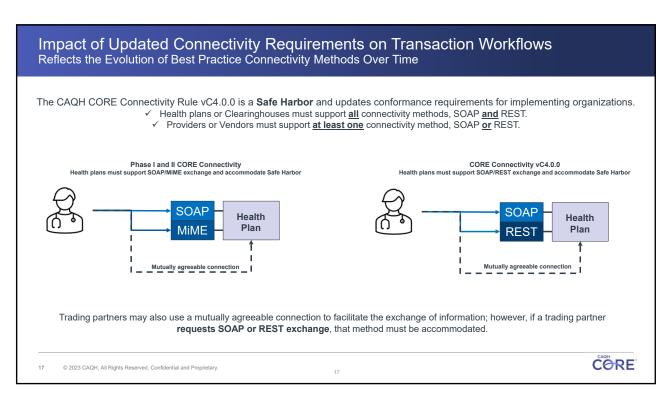
- Continues Safe Harbor Connectivity requirements to support SOAP messaging standards
 Incorporation of HTTPS and more stringent security standards TLS 1.2 or higher
 Requirement to use digital certificate for authentication X.509
 Implementation of stronger authorization standards OAuth 2.0
 Add support for the exchange of Attachments transactions including X12 275, HL7 C-

- CDA. FHIR. etc.

Addition of REST standards in vC4.0.0:

- Support for standard-agnostic REST style web resources
 Messaging in human-readable JAVA format
 Support for API integration and versioning standards for CORE Connectivity





Newest Version of CORE Connectivity Benefits to Industry











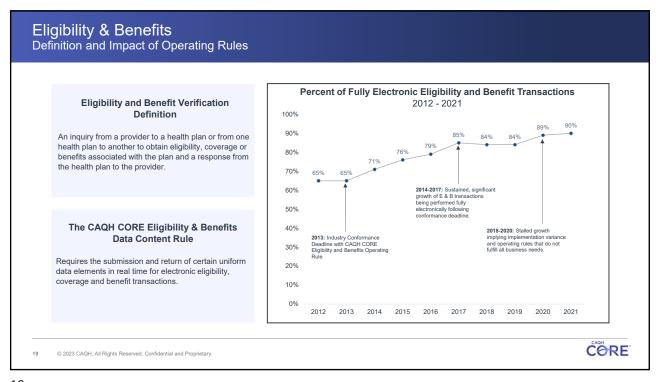
Aligning technical requirements on how data is transmitted and received between providers and health plans reduces administrative burden across the industry.

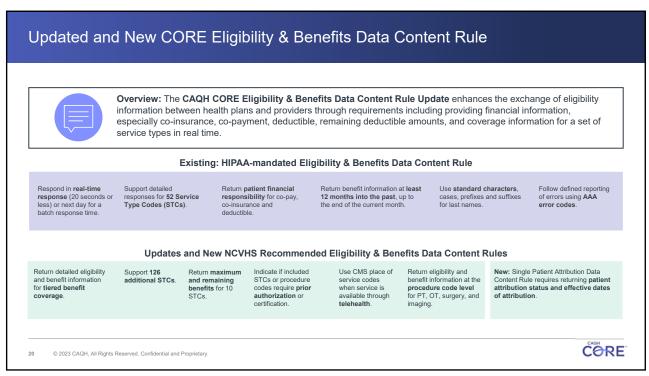
CONNECTIVITY

- Aligns the CAQH CORE Connectivity Rule vC4.0.0 to support frameworks proposed in the CMS and ONC interoperability rules, including the use of REST and other API technology.
- Establishes a Safe Harbor that aligns with existing IT implementations and supports emerging approaches for exchanging data by continuing to support SOAP as an exchange method and adding support for data exchanged using REST.
- Supports the intersection of administrative and clinical data exchange by adding support for the attachments transaction and publishing a single updated rule to include all transactions that are addressed in CAQH CORE Operating Rules, including those in development.
- ✓ **Updates the national floor** guiding connectivity communication in the industry.

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Updated and New CORE Eligibility & Benefits Data Content Rules Benefits to Industry











By addressing today's business needs, the updated eligibility & benefits operating rules encourage adoption of electronic transactions which provides time and cost savings across the industry.

ELIGBILITY & BENEFITS

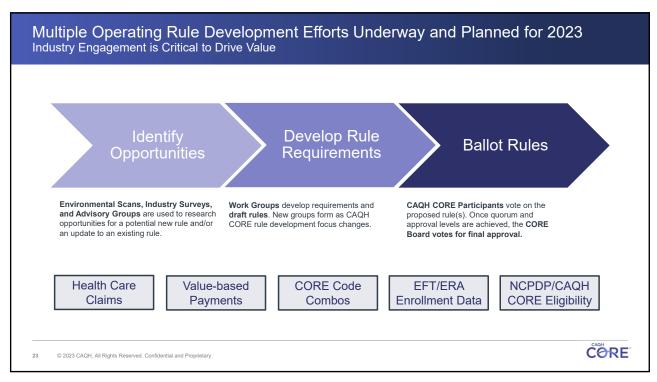
- ✓ Updates to the CAQH CORE Eligibility and Benefit Operating Rules ensure pressing industry needs are met while supporting the opportunity to achieve significant cost and time savings.
- According to the 2022 CAQH Index, industry has an opportunity to save \$11.78 per eligibility and benefit verification transaction when switching from manual to fully electronic transactions.
- ✓ If new versions of standards are introduced, Eligibility and Benefit Operating Rules will be updated, reflecting ongoing coordination between CORE and standards development organizations.
- ✓ Confronts emerging industry needs by addressing **telemedicine**, **prior authorization**, **and dictating the provision of more granular data** about enrollee benefits and involvement with **value-based payment models**.

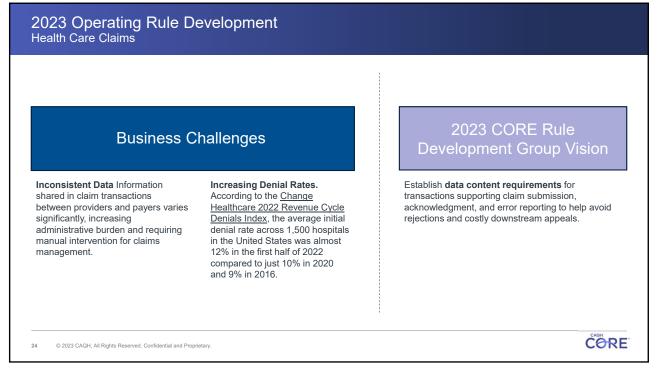
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21







2023 Operating Rule Development Health Care Claims

Telehealth POS + Modifier Placement

CAQH CORE Data Content Operating Rule for the Health Care Claim Transaction - Telehealth Claim Submission

- Modifier assignment for POS 10 and 02 is standardized to modifiers 93, 95, or GT
- Definitions of POS + modifier combinations are established in an accessible reference

Significant because

A rule provides needed clarity on place of service and modifier alignment.

277CA Data Alignment

CAQH CORE Data Content Operating Rule for the 277CA Transaction

- Claim Status Category Codes (CSCC) and Claim Status Code (CSC) errors and rejection reasons are standardized into business scenarios and code combinations.
- Standardized data used to associate the 277CA transaction with an 837 transaction
- Standardized data used to associate a 277CA error code with an 837 service line item.

- Standardized use of the 277CA could increase transaction adoption.
- With improved data quality and greater transaction adoption comes simplified claim resubmission.

COB Claim Submission

CAQH CORE Data Content Operating Rule for the Health Care Claim Submission Transaction

- Standardized minimum required data elements for successful processing of COB.
- Standardized format for listing health plan
- Alignment on electronic access of health plan COB data requirements.

- Lack of uniform 837 COB requirements creates additional administrative burden.
- Uniform data content requirements can remediate questions on payment or care attribution, among other items.

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25

2023 Operating Rule Development Value-based Payments

Business Challenges

Inconsistent Data. Data-sharing is integral to success in VBP; however, exchanging key data such as SDOH information between industry stakeholders lacks standardization, thus hindering efficient data exchange and negatively impacting patient care.

Limited Results. A recent report from the

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) shows that VBP programs produce only modest cost-savings without significant improvements in care quality.

Program Complexity.

Coordinating a population of patients across the spectrum of care poses difficulties that could be eased by defining terms and definitions across VBP programs.

2023 CORE Rule Development Group Vision

Leverage HIPAA-mandated benefit enrollment and claim transaction to facilitate uniform exchange of sociodemographic information and strengthen interoperability in VBP by aligning technical infrastructure requirements and industry terminology.



2023 Operating Rule Development Value-based Payments **Benefit Enrollment and Maintenance Attributed Patient Roster Health Care Claim Submission** (X12 v5010X220 834) (X12 v5010X318 834) (X12 v5010222 & 223 837) Alignment with X220 Data Content Rule to include collected and processed scio-demographic data elements in the altributed patient roster provided by Data content requirements to support the submission of additional claims at Equired and discretionary collection, exchange, and processing of socio-demographic data elements. ČÖRE CORE CORE a single encounter. Information between initial and additional claims **NEW** Race and Ethnicity health plans to providers. must match. UPDATED **NEW** Member Language Self-reported Gender Identity X12 837 X12 834 (220) X12 834 (318) Race and Ethnicity Member ID (222/223) Data Content Rendering Provider NPI Billing Provider NPI Dates of Service Member Language Self-reported Gender Identity Data Content Data Content Also includes the development of sociodemographic disclosure language to drive informed consent. Note that this represents a collaborative effort with the CORE Healthcare Claims Subgroup. Substantive, non-substantive, and typographical updates to support additions to the X12 v5010X220 834. Substantive, non-substantive, and typographical updates to support additions to the X12 v5010X318 834. CORE CORE **UPDATED UPDATED** Inclusion of socio-demographic Inclusion of socio-demographic X12 834 (220) disclosure language in the transaction-specific companion guide. X12 834 (318) inclusion of socio-demographic disclosure language in transaction specific companion guide. Addition of real-time processing mode requirements for entities who support that exchange. Infrastructure Infrastructure CORE © 2023 CAQH, All Rights Reserved. Confidential and Proprietary

27

New and Upcoming Initiatives EFT/ERA and Eligibility & Benefits

Just Launched:

Support Industry Adoption of EFT with Nacha

- Collaboration between CAQH CORE and Nacha, the organization that oversees the ACH Network.
- Task Group will explore updating operating rules intended to simplify provider enrollment for EFT and ERA through consistent data requirements and electronic enrollment methods to address security and other business needs.

Upcoming Opportunity:

Joint Eligibility Rule Development with NCPDP

- Collaboration between CAQH CORE and the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP).
- Task Group will consider the development of updated eligibility data content operating rule requirements to support exchange of detailed coverage and benefit information for medication covered under the medical benefit.
- · Launching Soon





CORE Certification Ensuring Conformance with Operating Rule Requirements It is the responsibility of a CORE Certification is obtained when CAQH awards CORE Certification covered entity to ensure Seals to entities that create, transmit an entity has demonstrated that its IT business associate compliance or use the healthcare administrative system or product is operating in with HIPAA requirements; many and financial transactions addressed by the CAQH CORE Operating conformance with CAQH CORE entities require CORE Operating Rules for specific Certification as a condition of Rules. transaction(s). contracting. 410 Certifications have been awarded to date. Consider

CORE Certification for your organization.

30

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Call to Action

E-mail CORE@CAQH.ORG to Get Involved!



Become a CORE Participant

Collaborate with decision makers that comprise 75% of the industry to drive creation of operating rules and accelerate interoperability.



Become CORE Certified

Demonstrate conformance and commitment to streamlining administrative data exchange.



Be an Advocate

Work with CORE to measure the impact of operating rules and corresponding standards on organizations' efficiency metrics.

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