

**Mutual of Omaha – Medicare
Ask the Contractor Teleconference (ACT) - MINUTES
Topic: Skilled Nursing Assessment Process
January 24, 2007
Chairperson: John Wrynn**

The Northeast Region ACT teleconference call on the “Skilled Nursing Assessment (SNF) Process” was conducted by John Wrynn, Medicare Field Representative from the Glastonbury, CT Field Office, at 1:00 PM Eastern Time.

This teleconference began with an introduction of the Mutual of Omaha Medicare participants on the call, which included Janet Mateo from the Chicago Field Office, other Medicare Field Representatives from around the country and Medicare Provider Outreach and Education staff from our Home Office in Omaha, NE.

Participants on the call were informed about our four toll-free Ask The Contractor (ACT) conference calls held quarterly. Providers may participate in any one of the calls as their schedule permits. Providers can obtain information about upcoming ACT calls by going to the Mutual of Omaha web site, www.mutualmedicare.com and look under Provider Education / Seminars/ Teleconferences. Providers who sign up for Mutual Medicare’s electronic mail (EML) will be notified via e-mail of upcoming teleconference calls.

Providers attending the call were made aware of additional education selections that can found on the Mutual Medicare web site including, Computer Based Training (CBT), PCOM Advisory Group activities and a Provider Self-Service area with information such as Fee Schedules. Our bi-monthly Newsletter, containing important Medicare information, is also available via web site.

Providers who registered for this ACT teleconference call were sent via e-mail, six handout documents with their confirmations and the presentation. They included; listings of Mutual of Omaha’s 16 Computer Based Training (CBT) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) available on our web site, the MDS Calendar, MDS Payment Scheduler and two claim examples. Several CBTs and LCDs cover related SNF topics.

The presentation covered the SNF case mix system, MDS requirements including the scheduled timing of the MDS and the payments related to each assessment. The MDS Calendar and Scheduler were used to illustrate this importance. Communications about MDS information between SNF clinical, billing and support staff was emphasized. I also discussed CERT findings on SNF claims reviews that revealed issues with MDS documentation to support the number of RUG days billed.

After the presentation, the lines were open to participant for question. There were no questions.

The ACT teleconference ended at 1:50 PM.

The references included in this presentation are for informational purposes only. The current Medicare regulations will prevail.

There were 4 provider participants on the teleconference.