REQUEST

We are having a difficult time interpreting the 5010 999 guide against its scope. The scope specifically states that the 999 indicates the results of the syntactical or relational analysis. Relational as defined in X12.6 is intra segmental and not inter segmental. There is no definition in the TR3 for relational that expands beyond X12.6. There is an example in the back of the guide of an inter segmental error (example 3, CLM05-3/REF), which is out of scope under that definition. Is example 3 inappropriate in this TR3 and beyond the scope of the 999?

REFERENCED X12 STANDARDS

A “Request for Interpretation” applies to a specific version of the X12 Standards. The author failed to provide a specific version of the standard in the request. We have chosen to base this response on Version 5 Release 5 of the X12 Standard. As the areas of the X12 Standards applicable to this interpretation have been relatively stable over time, it is likely that the same interpretation would be provided for earlier versions of the X12 Standards.

The following X12 Standards were reviewed in developing this interpretation:

X12.1 Transaction Sets (Defines TS 999)  Version 005 Release 010
X12.6 Application Control Structure  Version 005 Release 010
X12.22 Data Segment Directory  Version 005 Release 010
X12.3 Data Element Dictionary  Version 005 Release 010
Implementation Acknowledgment For Health Care Insurance (999), Technical Report Type 3, Based on Version 5, Release 1, June 2007

INTERPRETATION

The purpose and scope of TS 999 states:

“The transaction set can be used to define the control structures for a set of acknowledgments to indicate the results of the syntactical and relational analysis of the electronically encoded documents, based upon a full or implemented subset of X12 transaction sets.”

X12.6, Section 3.7.3.2.3, addresses “relational conditions”, which as you note deals with intra segment relationships among data elements. The X12.6 definition of “relational” in the context of “relational condition” does not restrict the broader meaning of “relational” as used in “relational analysis” in TS 999. Reporting on violation of a “relational condition” is a subset of the “syntactic and relational analysis” that may be reported with TS 999.

Therefore, Example 3 is appropriate and within the purpose and scope of TS 999.