

ACKNOWLEDGING X12 SEMANTIC NOTE VIOLATIONS

RFI 2008-08, June 2010

REQUEST

Is there a consistent code value for use in transaction sets 997 and 999 for reporting violations of X12 standard Notes?

Some examples of 'semantic' X12 standard Notes I've recently noticed that could generate violations are:

transaction set 275 Note 2/0200

"The NM1 segment in loop LX identifies an individual provider within a responder group"

transaction set 834 Note 2/550

"The FSA loop may only appear for the Subscriber"

transaction set 837 Note 2/540

"SVD01 identifies the payer which adjudicated the corresponding service line and must match DE 67 in the NM109 position 325 for the payer".

There are probably more.

I can see several possible code values from code lists for data elements 618, 620, 621, 716, 718, 720, and 723 that could be used in various / differing circumstances, but am looking for a single mechanism that consistently states "a Note has been violated" and, ideally, could identify that Note by number.

REFERENCED X12 STANDARDS

The following X12 Standards were reviewed in developing this interpretation:

X12.1 Transaction Sets

997 - Functional Acknowledgment

Purpose and Scope:

This X12 Transaction Set contains the format and establishes the data contents of the Functional Acknowledgment Transaction Set (997) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. The transaction set can be used to define the control structures for a set of acknowledgments to indicate the results of the syntactical analysis of the electronically encoded documents. The encoded documents are the transaction sets, which are grouped in functional groups, used in defining transactions for business data interchange. This standard does not cover the semantic meaning of the information encoded in the transaction sets.

999 - Implementation Acknowledgment

Purpose and Scope:

This X12 Transaction Set contains the format and establishes the data contents of the Implementation Acknowledgment Transaction Set (999) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. 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. The encoded documents are the transaction sets, which are grouped in functional groups, used in defining transactions for business data interchange. This standard does not cover the semantic meaning of the information encoded in the transaction sets.

X12.6 Application Control Structure

Version 005 Release 010 (Defines syntactical architecture of data)

3.7.3.4 Semantic Notes

A semantic note provides important additional information regarding the intended use of a standard or portion thereof. These usage notes, while not part of the formal syntax, must be followed in order to be in compliance with the standard. Semantic notes, therefore, are considered to be part of the relevant standard and are appropriately designated to distinguish them from syntax notes (which are part of the standard) and comments (which are not part of the standard).

Semantic notes for transaction sets provide information with respect to the intended use of a segment within the context of a particular transaction set. Semantic notes for segments provide information regarding the intended meaning of a designated data element, particularly a generic type, in the context of its use within a specified data segment. Semantic notes may also define relational conditions among data elements in a segment based on the presence of a specific value (or one of a set of values) in one of the data elements.

FORMAL INTERPRETATION

There is no method within the 997 or 999 to report violations of ASC X12 standard semantic notes.

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

These errors should be reported in an application acknowledgment transactions such as Transactions Sets 151 (Electronic Filing of Tax Return Data Acknowledgment) , 131 (Student Educational Record Transcript Acknowledgement), 855 (Purchase Order Acknowledgement), 865 (Purchase Order Acknowledgement/Request - Seller Initiated), and 824 (Application Advice).