

WEDI Workgroup (WG) / Sub Work Group (SWG) Template

WG/SWG Topic(s):	Electronic Coordination of Benefits (COB)
WG/SWG Lead(s) (Name, Email, Phone):	Myra Salapare - myra.salapare@ge.com (Software Vendor) Russell Taylor – taylorr3@aetna.com (Payer) TBD - (Provider)
Primary List Serv Address	WEDI-cob@lists.wedi.org
WG/SWG Scope of Work	
What is in scope? Provide the topic and definition of the topic.	Addressing the issues that hinder or prevent COB stakeholders from implementing electronic Coordination of Benefits.
Identify any assumptions	That COB will be a necessary for the foreseeable future and that it is easier and less expensive to exchange and process electronic COB transactions than paper transactions.
What is out of scope?	We consider 835 claim payment/advice transactions to be a part of a COB data flow but will leave any issues regarding the 835 transaction data and structure to the 835 sub-workgroup.
WG/SWG Purpose	
What is the primary goal?	To promote the use of electronic coordination of benefits (eCOB) between providers and payers. This includes the generation and submission and processing of original claims and the generation, submission and processing of COB secondary claims.
What business problem will be minimized or resolved by this workgroup?	Though we hope to have a positive impact on the health care industry by increasing the number of COB stakeholders that implement eCOB.
Stakeholders	Providers, clearinghouses, software vendors and payers that perform or could be involved in involved in the exchange and processing of Coordination of Benefits
Describe the central problem this project will attempt to resolve. What are some of the symptoms of this problem? Are there any corollary problems?	Some sectors of the healthcare industry have been slow in the creation of COB capabilities in their organizations. This is illustrated by the choice of some providers to continue to generate and process COB claims on paper. It is further illustrated by the choice of most payers to refrain from supporting model 2 (payer-to-payer) COB. The need for model 2 COB support may become more urgent as real time claim adjudication is adopted over the next few years.
Are there other regulatory or contractual obligations that might affect how this project is implemented?	No
Objectives / Measures of Success / Deliverables <i>(template allows for 3 projects for a specific WG/SWG)</i>	
Project #1 Title:	Claim Bundling and Unbundling and COB
What outcomes do you expect to achieve? Will there be a phased in approach?	We would like to generate a white paper to provide instruction on the bundling and unbundling of services in COB claims. We may also prepare and present an audiocast for on this topic.
What is the ideal outcome?	A clear and concise white paper that serves the information needs of COB stakeholders and significantly increases the adoption of eCOB.
What is an acceptable outcome?	A clear and concise white paper that serves the information needs of COB stakeholders.
How would you define success for this workgroup?	The completion of the white paper and its acceptance by the WEDI board. Development and presentation of and significant attendance at the audiocast on the topic.

What are the potential business impacts if the solution(s) is not implemented?	This is one of the more confusing aspects of COB. It may be one of the issues that stand in the way of eCOB adoption and the standard generation and processing of eCOB claims and remittances.
What are the current deliverables or outcomes that are expected and the completion dates for each deliverable?	A Claim Bundling and Unbundling and COB white paper that would be delivered 2010. The development and presentation of an audiocast and significant attendance at the audiocast on the topic.
How much time or resources need to be committed to complete deliverables?	TBD
Project #2 Title:	eCOB Payer Implementation Survey
What outcomes do you expect to achieve? Will there be a phased in approach?	We would like to identify the current state of health care payers' implementation of eCOB. We have developed a survey and will reach out to as many payers as possible to get a valid sample.
What is the ideal outcome?	That we identify the payers that are able to generate and receive eCOB transactions and that we could develop a list of the payers that are supporting the COB payer-to-payer model. We would like to link up payers that support the model and encourage payers to develop new payer-to-payer capabilities when they see payers to whom they are primary or secondary in COB situations have similar payer-to-payer capability.
What is an acceptable outcome?	They we are able to publish a paper identifying the state of the industry in COB capability.
How would you define success for this workgroup?	The group would provide sufficient resource and tenacity in contacting payers to identify their eCOB status and that the payers would be forthcoming in sharing their current state and their plans on eCOB.
What are the potential business impacts if the solution(s) is not implemented?	Perhaps a longer period required for cross industry eCOB adoption.
What are the current deliverables or outcomes that are expected and the completion dates for each deliverable?	Identification of target payers. 2Q09 Assignment of groups of payers to the participants from the group. 2Q09 Publish the white paper. TBD
How much time or resources need to be committed to complete deliverables?	We would need at least 10 participants to survey the 300 possible payers. The survey could take 10 months to complete. Time: TBD
Project #3 Title:	Build and deliver and updated version of the intro to COB audiocast
What outcomes do you expect to achieve? Will there be a phased in approach?	We expect to offer an introduction to electronic COB concepts with this course.
What is the ideal outcome?	That more people outside the COB SWG understand electronic COB
What is an acceptable outcome?	That the people inside the COB SWG get a better understanding of COB.
How would you define success for this workgroup?	That the Intro to COB slides are created and the audiocast is presented in 4Q 2009
What are the potential business impacts if the solution(s) is not implemented?	N/A

What are the current deliverables or outcomes that are expected and the completion dates for each deliverable?	We would like to deliver the audiocast in 4Q 2009
How much time or resources need to be committed to complete deliverables?	We have already been working on the slides for 3 months (elapsed time). Not much more will be needed.
Environmental Factors / Support Needs	
Are there other individuals/entities/work groups that need to provide input?	Yes we will need payer input for the eCOB state of the industry survey. X12 Claim workgroup for bundling and unbundling expertise 5010 837 sub-workgroup 835 sub-workgroup
What tools does the workgroup need to acquire to ensure this project is successful?	We would like to have a facility for web sharing documents that are updated by a conference leader and have each of the participants see the updates in real time. This would simplify white paper development and editing greatly.
Do you need additional administrative support?	I would like a central place on the WEDI web site to store and make available to the sub-workgroup members, the documents we are working on.
Do you need additional project management support?	No
Do you need additional communication support?	TBD
Additional Comments or Concerns	