

April 13, 2020

Shawn Nau  
Chief Executive Officer  
Steward Health Choice (HCA)  
410 N. 44<sup>th</sup> Street; Ste. 900  
Phoenix, AZ 85008

**SUBJECT: Preliminary Results of Sanctionable Aged Pended Encounters December 2019**

Dear Mr. Nau:

This letter provides the preliminary results of the aged pended encounters over 120 days for the quarter ending December 2019. In November AHCCCS implemented some logic changes within PMMIS that incorrectly generated large numbers of pended encounters. Which was corrected and the encounters re-adjudicated appropriately. As a result, the encounter response files were delayed.

**Therefore, AHCCCS is waiving the sanctions for aged encounters for this quarter.**

Even though the sanctions are waived, the Contractor is liable for addressing all pended encounters (except those errors which have been identified as due to AHCCCS error or as being under review by AHCCCS) moving forward.

When error codes are identified as an AHCCCS error and are corrected, or are identified as being under AHCCCS review and then released, the Contractor is responsible for addressing any remaining error codes and will be afforded a new 120 day clock for resolution. However, the true age for these pended encounters will continue to appear on the Aging Reports.

The information related to the waived and excluded encounters for the quarter December 2019 is included in an excel spreadsheet which has been uploaded to the AHCCCS' FTP server. The file contains four (4) spreadsheets, each with a tab labeled:

- Pend Age Category
- Pend CRN
- Pend Error Summary
- Waive Count

The path is sftp.state.medicaid.us\HCA\OTHER\ and the file name is HCA December 2019 Preliminary Sanction.

No further action is required by the Contractor. Please contact Gina Aker at (602) 417-4016 if you have any questions regarding the above information.

Sincerely,

*Via Electronic Mail*

Lori Petre  
Data Analysis & Research Manager

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