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September 4, 2025

Ms. Heather Carter  
Chief Executive Officer  
Health Choice Arizona  
8220 N 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave  
Phoenix AZ 85021

**RE: Annual Data Validation Audit CYE 2023 – Final Findings**

Dear Ms. Carter:

As previously communicated, per Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requirements, AHCCCS has been conducting the Annual Data Validation Audit for CYE23. The purpose of this correspondence is to notify the Contractor that AHCCCS has completed the Annual Data Validation Audit and to provide AHCCCS' final findings. Attached are the final results for Data Validation Annual Audit CYE23 for Health Choice Arizona. The Annual Data Validation Audit was conducted in accordance with Contract YH19-0001-03 Section D, Encounter Data Reporting, and the [AHCCCS Data Validation Technical Document](#). The Audit included two sections: Study A for all professional services and Study B for all facility services. Study A and Study B measured the following:

- Claims included in the Contractor's claim submission and encountered in AHCCCS' Prepaid Medical Management Information System (PMMIS) (Match) – reviewed for accuracy and timeliness.
- Claims included in the Contractor's claim submission but not encountered in PMMIS (NotEnc InClm) – reviewed for omission.
- Encounters reported in PMMIS but not included in the Contractor's claim submission (InEnc NotClm) – reviewed for omission from claim submission file.

A preliminary report was provided to allow the Contractor the opportunity to review and submit any additional information that may have affected the final error rate calculations. After considering the Contractor response, the results have been applied to the total population of "A" and "B" encounters.

**Final Findings:**

For Study A InEnc NotClm, there were 1,261,828 possible omissions identified from a sample size of 6,237,005 encounters; a subsample of 315 was randomly selected. AHCCCS manually compared the supporting information provided by the Contractor to the adjudicated encounters within PMMIS resulting in 71 omission errors, yielding an overall error rate of 4.56%.

For Study B InEnc NotClm, there were 31,118 possible omissions identified from a sample size of 306,612 encounters; a subsample of 315 was randomly selected. AHCCCS manually compared the

supporting information provided by the Contractor to the adjudicated encounters within PMMIS resulting in 105 omission errors, yielding an overall error rate of 3.38%.

For Study A Match, there were 4,975,177 encounter/claim matches identified from a sample size of 5,004,463 claims; a subsample of 150 was randomly selected. AHCCCS manually compared the supporting information provided by the Contractor to the adjudicated encounters within PMMIS resulting in 0 accuracy errors and 1 timeliness error, yielding an overall error rate of 0.00% for accuracy and 0.67% for timeliness.

For Study B Match, there were 275,494 encounter/claim matches identified from a sample size of 276,588 claims; a subsample of 150 was randomly selected. AHCCCS manually compared the supporting information provided by the Contractor to the adjudicated encounters within PMMIS resulting in 1 accuracy error and 0 timeliness errors, yielding an overall error rate of 0.67% for accuracy and 0.00% for timeliness.

For Study A NotEnc InCIm, there were 29,286 possible omissions identified from a sample size of 5,004,463 claims; a subsample of 315 was randomly selected. AHCCCS manually compared the supporting information provided by the Contractor to the adjudicated encounters within PMMIS resulting in 110 omission errors, yielding an overall error rate of 0.20%.

For Study B NotEnc InCIm, there were 1,094 possible omissions identified from a sample size of 276,588 claims; a subsample of 315 was randomly selected. AHCCCS manually compared the supporting information provided by the Contractor to the adjudicated encounters within PMMIS resulting in 23 omission errors, yielding an overall error rate of 0.03%.

For each Study, if the error rate fell below the acceptable rate of 5%, no sanction was applied.

Monetary sanctions of \$5.00 were assessed per error (encounter omission, omission from the claim submission file, inaccurate record, or untimely record). The Contractor's error rates and sanction amounts for each Study are as follows.

STUDY	Error Rate	Sanction
A InEnc NotCIm	4.56%	\$0.00
A Match Accuracy	0.00%	\$0.00
A Match Timeliness	0.67%	\$0.00
A NotEnc InCIm	0.20%	\$0.00
B InEnc NotCIm	3.38%	\$0.00
B Match Accuracy	0.67%	\$0.00
B Match Timeliness	0.00%	\$0.00
B NotEnc InCIm	0.03%	\$0.00

Per the terms of the Contract, sanctions are not AHCCCS' exclusive remedy. Sanction amounts will be withheld from the Contractor's future capitation. In particular and without limiting possible future actions, if any legal action is brought against AHCCCS as the result of your non-compliance with the Contract, AHCCCS will seek compensation from you for any damages arising from such legal action including, but not limited to, AHCCCS' cost of representation, as well as the cost of any attorneys' fees and costs payable to the party bringing the action.

The Contractor may dispute the decision to impose a sanction in accordance with the process specified in AAC R9-34-401 et seq. The dispute must be filed in writing and must be received by the AHCCCS Administration, Office of General Counsel at 150 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. MD 15013, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, no later than 60 days from the date of this letter. The dispute shall specify the legal and factual bases for the dispute as well as the relief requested.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Oakley at (602) 417-4308 or by email at [linda.oakley@azahcccs.gov](mailto:linda.oakley@azahcccs.gov).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:



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Meggan LaPorte CPPO, MSW  
Chief Procurement Officer  
Division of Business and Finance  
Mail Drop #5700