

# IMPACT NEWS

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## 5010 AND MCSI ALERT

### 837

MCSI has completed our alpha testing of the standard 837 outbound and inbound. The standard HIPAA formats are without any customer-specific or custom code for initial testing. If you have any vendors willing to partner with you to do testing on the 837, MCSI is ready to start beta testing.

Please contact me when you are ready.

### 834

MCSI is currently programming and alpha testing the 834 outbound 5010 format. I will keep you posted when we are ready for beta testing.

Please contact me with any questions.

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## EXPANDED PLABL PERIOD OF LIMITATION CODE

The Period of Limitation (P column) code (C)alendar year sets the period of limitation to 1 calendar year. The (+) option code has been enhanced to allow for up to 9 calendar years by placing the number of years in the OPTN field in the format #YRS where “#” is the number of years. In the example below, the period of limitation is set to 3 calendar years:

ACCU	\$ LIMIT	-	UNIT	-	P	HOLD	MESG	PLAN%	INDIV%	AC-LEV	OPTN
DMEL	50000.00	B	0	N	+		BENEXE	.00	100.00	PCA	3YRS

For more details, see the document named Plan Building – imp00008.

## BEWARE THE DOUBLE IF

After reviewing some of our customers' Med-Talk and Pay-Talk logic recently, it has become apparent that there is some confusion regarding how to use the "IF" and "PIF" operators when combining tests. When combining tests and using an "IF" operator, the operator "AND" should be used for additional tests, not multiple "IF" operators. In the example below, the test will be for female patients between the ages of 10 and 20 where a 10% discount should be taken.

```

IF      SEX    THE SEX OF THE PATIENT IS      F
AND    AGE    THE AGE OF THE PATIENT IS      10      20
THEN   DISC   APPLY DISCOUNT PERCENT OF    10.00
  
```

The errors that have been seen in the talk modules is:

```

IF      SEX    THE SEX OF THE PATIENT IS      F
IF      AGE    THE AGE OF THE PATIENT IS      10      20
THEN   DISC   APPLY DISCOUNT PERCENT OF    10.00
  
```

In the second example, the second "IF" has no relationship to the first "IF" and passes on its own merit. If the first test fails, the second one may pass, so in effect, the patient's gender is not part of the second example's test and anyone between the ages of 10 and 20 will get the discount.

The confusion may be as a result of using permanent "IF" ("PIF") operators. There is no corresponding "AND" for the "PIF" and consecutive "PIF" operators function is the same way that the "IF" and "AND" operators do in the first example. The test for females aged 10 - 20 when using the "PIF" operator would be as follows:

```

PIF     SEX    THE SEX OF THE PATIENT IS      F
PIF     AGE    THE AGE OF THE PATIENT IS      10      20
  
```

To create a report that will indicate logic written using 2 "IF" operators, enter any Med-Talk or Pay-Talk module and press F10-R. Select the option called Med-Talk Lists and delete the name of the talk module then navigate to the Boolean Operator Field and type in IF:

Talk Logic		
Line Number		
Boolean Operator	IF	
Command Code		
Description		
Low Value		
High Value		
Two Lines? (Y/N)		

Navigate to the last field named Two Lines? (Y/N) and enter a "Y" in capital letters and a second screen will come up that is similar to the first one. Scroll to the Boolean Operator field and enter IF:

```

Talk Logic      2|
Line Number    2|
Boolean Operator 2| IF
Command Code   2|
Description     2|
Low Value      2|
High Value     2|

```

Press the Enter key until the printer selection field comes up. Here you can either type a "V" to view the report onscreen or pick a printer to print out a hard copy of the report. If any instances of double "IF" operators exist, there will be a report:

03/15/2010		MANAGED CARE SYSTEMS INC. SELECTIVE TALK LOGIC REPORT				Page 1	
Talk	Line	Oper	Code	Description	Value 1	Value 2	
\$001TR	3	IF	AGE	THE AGE OF THE PATIENT IS	10	20	
AMEDOC	12	IF	ANSW	THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION IS	DHH22		
HG8ASC	3	IF	EDAT	EVE CASE START DATE VS CLM_6A	10	30	

The report shows the second of the 2 "IF" lines.

## WHAT'S NEW IN MED-TALK AND PAY-TALK?

**Med-Talk, Impact's pricing logic, is the heart of intelligent claims pricing allowing the user to create complex algorithms that can price even the most detailed contracts. Pay-Talk, Impact's payment logic, is the heart of intelligent claims adjudication allowing the user to quickly create complex algorithms that can build even the most detailed plans of benefits. The list of commands for these continues to grow in response to our customers' needs. Using the format in Med-Talk File Maintenance - imp00003 and Pay-Talk File Maintenance - imp00004, actions that actions shown in red apply primarily to Pay-Talk, actions shown in blue apply primarily to Med-Talk and actions in black are applicable to both.**

**CLME** - IF CLME returns true if the claim has the CLME record that is n VALUE1 regardless of its status (HOLD, MESS, OVER, RESO, etc.).

**SOPY** - IF SOPY returns true if the starting (CLM\_6A) and ending (CLM\_6B) dates on a claim apply to different plan years.

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## TALK TRACKING TOOLS

Talk tracking tools help facilitate debugging Med-Talk and Pay-Talk logic. Most users know how to use some of these tools but several of the newer tools may not be familiar to everyone. To start talk tracking from the service line, press <F10>, <X>, <T>. Pressing the <Enter> key will progress through the logic one line at a time. For other options, press the <?> key for the help screen:

```
(HGTST7) 1 IF THE SERVICES WERE INPATIENT I .00 .00 PASSED ?
2 INPT

-----
Enter P to only stop at commands that say PASSED
Enter + to skip Med-talk and go directly to Pay-Talk
Enter & to skip this module and stop at the next one
Enter L to jump to specific service line number
Enter @ to only stop at DEBUG commands
Enter Q to Quit this debugging session
Enter ? to get this help screen
Enter S to set Stop parameters
Enter A to goto next Action (excludes: BACK, JUMP, QUIT, etc.)
-----
```

The options are:

- <P> jumps to each line of logic that passes, skipping the ones that fail.
- <+> jumps from the Med-Talk logic to the Pay-Talk. If no Pay-Talk is used, it jumps to the next service line.
- <&> jumps to the next module; this could be either a Med-Talk or a Pay-Talk.
- <L> jumps to the desired service line. A prompt window opens for you to enter the line number.
- <@> skips to a DEBUG command if you are using it.
- <Q> quits running the logic.
- <?> brings up this help screen.
- <S> sets stop parameters. The logic will track until it comes to one of these options:

```
Stop at these commands:
--> █
Stop when VALUE 1 equals:
-->
Stop when VALUE 2 equals:
-->
Stop when TALK ID equals:
-->
```

- Stop at these commands – Enter a command like PREX and tracking will stop each time it hits a PREX command. Enter a VALUE 1 like "EMER" and tracking will stop each time it hits an entry that has EMER in VALUE1. Enter a VALUE 2 like " 123.00" and tracking will stop when it finds 123.00 in Value 2.
- The Stop VALUE1/VALUE2 parameters are in an "or" relationship. So tracking will stop if any of them are found. When tracking stops on one of your parameters, you can press the <Enter> key or the <S> key to continue running with the same stop situations. Pressing any other entry, like the <P> key, will interrupt Stop and continue in the normal tracking style. You have to be careful

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when entering certain data in value1 or 2. Dollar values may be right justified and must be entered as such. But age, for example, is 3 characters left justified, with a blank in front for less than 100, so it must be entered in that fashion. There are other data that will mislead you if you're not careful with formatting.

- Stop when TALK ID equals – Enter the name of the Med-Talk module to stop at. The logic will run until that module is reached.
- <A> go to the next action (THEN) command that passes.

## NEW TALK F10 GOTO/BACK OPTIONS

Two new options have been to the talk modules F10 menu to help navigate between modules that use the GOTO and BACK commands:

```
OTHER OPTIONS MENU
-----
(C)opy this Med-Talk
(E)xport this Med-Talk
(D)elete this Med-Talk
(F)ind specific lines
(I)nsert Copied Logic
(M)odify SEEK Tables
(P)rovider N&A
(Q)uit & abort changes
(R)eporting (Direct)
(V)alue Mass Changes
(G)oto TALK
(B)ack to prev Talk
-----
Your choice..
```

(G)oto TALK – If you put your cursor on a talk line that has the GOTO or CHGT command and press <F10>,<G>, any changes you have made to the current talk will be saved, and the GOTO talk module will be brought up on the screen. Every time you use <F10>,<G>, it will remember where you were and can go back the same way you came in using <F10>,<B>, allowing you to nest up to 100 GOTO's deep.

(B)ack to prev TALK – if you press <F10>,<B>, while in a talk module that was accessed using the GOTO or CHGT command, the current talk will be updated with any changes you may have completed, and you will go back to the talk that you were previously editing.

## AUDITING TALK MODULES

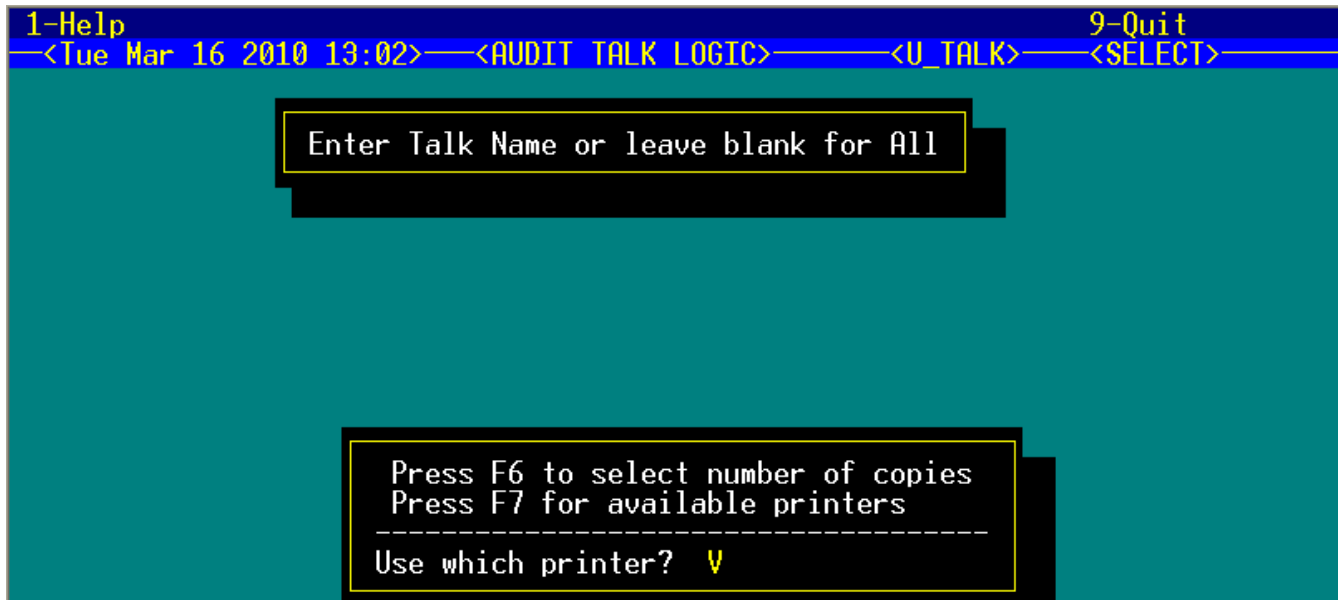
Logic auditing provides a tool to find potential logic failures. For example it tests JUMP commands to see if the module actually provides the J code for the jump to occur. Another example is that the audit looks for an appropriate POFF operator for every PIF operator. To use this tool, press <F10>, <R> from the logic module and select the audit option:

-	NAME	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	PROG	FAMILY
1	MED-TALK LISTS	MED-TALK F/M LISTINGS	REPORT	DBC	TALK
2	MED-TALK AUDIT	MED-TALK AUDIT	REPORT	DBC	TALK

By default, the name of the module that you are in will be in the Talk Logic inquiry window. If you wish to audit of the whole talk.dbf file or specific selected modules, press the <Esc> key to clear the module name.

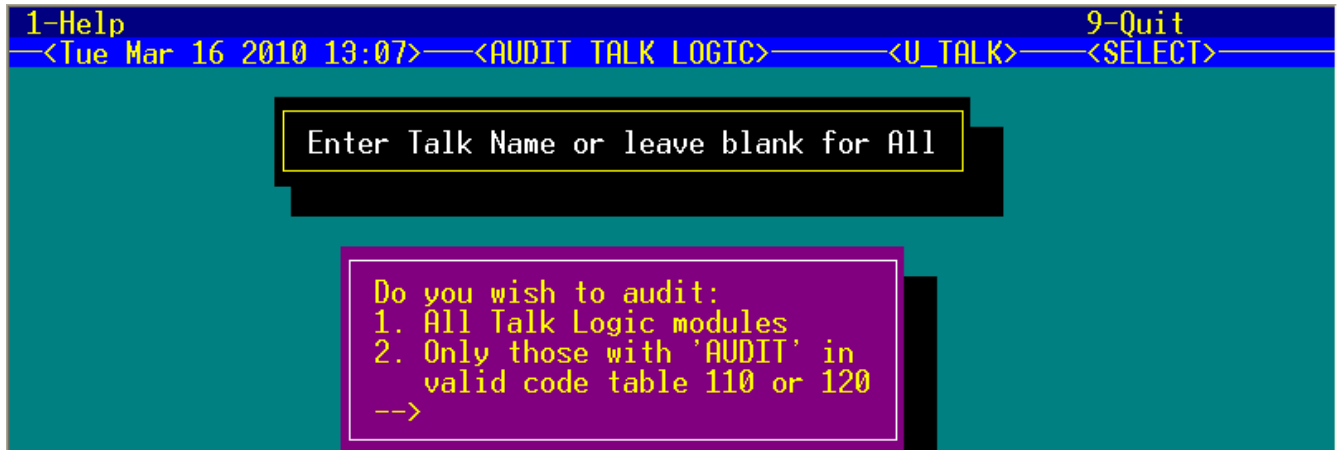


If you opt to audit the current module, press <Enter> and select how you want this report to print and how many copies:



Once the printer and number of copies are set, press <Enter> to create the audit report.

If you want to audit all modules or selected modules, the following screen comes up:



The first option will audit all Med-Talk and Pay-Talk modules. The second option audits only the modules that have the word "AUDIT" in their OPTIONS field:

PAY-TALK MODULE NAMES		
CODE	DESCRIPTION	OPTIONS
CHIRO	CHIROPRACTIC BENEFIT RULES	AUDIT
DENIAL	CLAIM DENIAL RULES	
DMEDMO	DME DEMO LOGIC USING MEML RECS	
EPOBE1	EPO BENEFITS OLD VERSION	
EPOBE2	COPY OF ORIGINAL EPOBEN	
EPOBEN	EPO BENEFITS	AUDIT
EPOPLN	EPO BENEFIT LOGIC	
FLEXPT	FLEX PAY-TALK	

"AUDIT" can be set either by going to valid code tables 110 and 120, or by opening the Med-Talk and Pay-Talk pick lists. Scroll to the desired module name, press <F8> to access the DESCRIPTION field, press <Enter> to go to the OPTIONS field and then type "AUDIT."

In addition to auditing the selected modules, the audit report will show any lines of logic that do not have a name on the valid code tables 110 and 120.

Next, select the printer and the number of copies to print.

Press the <Enter> key to get the report. If there are no problems detected, you will get the following:

02/20/2009	MANAGED CARE SYSTEMS INC. TALK AUDIT REPORT	Page 1	
TYPE	TALK ID	LINE	AUDIT MESSAGE
-----			
M			No errors detected

If the audit detects any real or possible problems, the report will look like this:

02/20/2009		MANAGED CARE SYSTEMS INC. TALK AUDIT REPORT		Page 1
TYPE	TALK ID	LINE	AUDIT MESSAGE	
P	CHIRO	18	BENE appears to carry on	
P	DENIAL		Jumped to label: JBEN does not exist	
P	DMEDMO	5	Invalid value: E1350 on valid code table: 501	
M	FAKON7	6	Invalid value: LBF on valid code table: 302	
M	FAKON7	7	Invalid value: OGBLBF on valid code table: 110	
M	FAKON7	12	Invalid value: OGBCOB on valid code table: 110	
M	FAKON7	16	Invalid value: PHY on valid code table: 302	
M	FAKON7	17	Invalid value: SPH on valid code table: 302	
M	FAKON7	18	Invalid value: OGBPHY on valid code table: 110	
M	FAKON7	23	Invalid value: \$07DME on valid code table: 110	

The TYPE column will indicate if the module is a (M)ed-Talk, (P)ay-Talk, (B)oth or (?) if the system does not know what type of talk module it should be. A talk module like PPOPAY can contain both Med-Talk and Pay-talk commands and appears on both valid codes tables, so it would be type <B>. The "?" indicates that there are some logic lines in talk.dbf, but the name does not appear on either the Med-Talk or the Pay-Talk Module Names valid codes table. This situation most often occurs when someone tries to delete a talk module by deleting the module name in the module name valid code table rather than deleting the module from the body or the module itself.

The TALK ID column shows the module name, the LINE column is the module line number where the problem is detected and the AUDIT MESSAGE column tells what the perceived problem is. Remember, the audit report looks at potential problems, so they may or may not need correcting.

Note that not all items on the r are errors, but they all need to be looked at to be sure that they are OK. For example, the report will list every PIF command that is not followed by a POFF before another PIF command is used. There are times when one PIF command is followed by another PIF (imbedded PIF) command before a POFF is used. In this case the following audit message appears:

03/16/2010		MANAGED CARE SYSTEMS INC. TALK AUDIT REPORT FOR \$001TR		Page 1
TYPE	TALK ID	LINE	AUDIT MESSAGE	
M	\$001TR	29	WARNING - Expecting POFF	

By checking the logic, you will be able to tell if there should be a POFF or not.



**Managed Care Systems, Inc.**

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