



**Department  
of Health**

# **Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS) Overview of Data Submission System**

# Overview of SPARCS Data Submission History

# Background

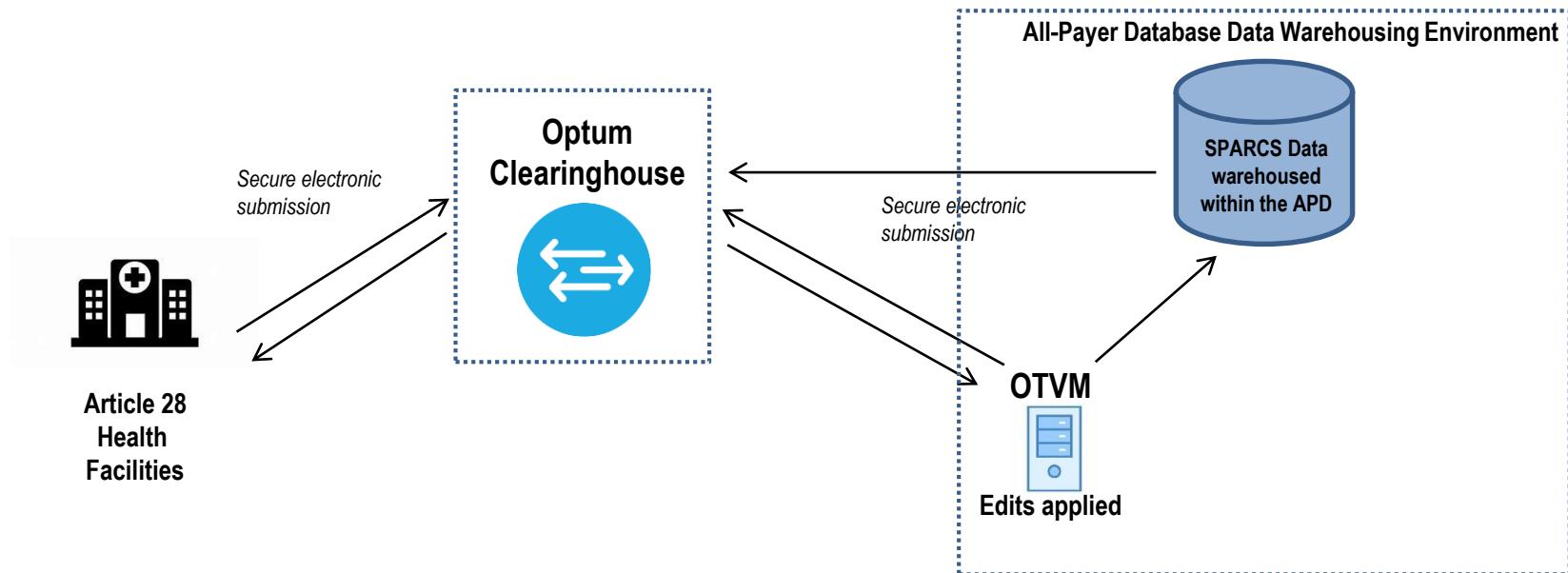
- SPARCS has been in existence for over 35 years. It was established by statute in 1979. New York was the first state to collect this type of data.
- This all-payer data set consists of pre-adjudicated claim data including: patient characteristics, diagnoses, services, and related charges for hospital discharges, ambulatory surgery, emergency department, and expanded outpatient data.
- Health care facilities submit SPARCS data necessary to meet New York State purposes.

# Submission System Overview

- NYSDOH has a contract with Optum Government Solutions, Inc. (Optum) for data submission processing.
- Optum's solution components include:
  - 24x7 Submission and Processing Window
  - OTVM (Optum Transaction Validation Manager)
    - Translation Engine
    - Rules Engine for Performing Edits
  - Standardized Response Transactions
- Edits will closely align with industry norms for claim submission editing
- Response transactions will include X12 standard transactions
- Files can include both inpatient and outpatient transactions. Individual claims will be classified as inpatient/outpatient using the Facility Type Code.

# SPARCS File Submission Process

# SPARCS Submission Process



# Upload and Retrieval Automation (SFTP Availability)

- SFTP is an available option for facilities that need to automate the file upload and retrieval process or need file size greater than 5 mg.

# Help Desk Support

- With the processing of data submissions now being handled by Optum, they will also be handling the Help Desk for technical submission support.
- Facilities will contact Optum's Help desk for processing issues.
- NYSDOH will remain involved in communications and providing assistance:
  - Working with Optum to identify problem areas in the submission process.
  - Handling Data Compliance and Statements of Deficiency (SOD).
  - Quality of data issues.

# Help Desk Support

- Help Desk Ticket Process
  - Each support issue will be assigned a help desk ticket that will be tracked updated and reported until the issue is resolved and resolution is communicated to the submitter.
  - Each ticket is assigned to a technician who is accountable to resolve the issue.
  - If the issue involves extensive research and/or IT development, the Technician will contact the submitter and provide continual updates until the issue is resolved.
  - At the start of each business day, an internal operational meeting is conducted by the clearinghouse team to review the status of all outstanding issues.

# Help Desk Support (cont.)

## Hours of Operation

- The OptumInsight Support Desk is staffed 8:00 am – 7:00 pm EST, Monday through Friday.

## Contact Information

- Telephone: IEDI Number (800-225-8951)
- Support Fax: IEDI Number (800-225-8951)
- Clearinghouse Enrollment Fax: 877-630-2064

# SPARCS Response Files

# Response Files

- Multiple response file formats are available:
  - Machine readable standard X12 response transactions.
    - TA1 – File Acknowledgement
    - 999 – Transaction Set Acknowledgement
    - 277CA – Claim Acknowledgement
  - Duplicate Edit and Adjustment/Void Rejection Error File
  - Rejected Claim Records in X12 837R Format

# Response Files – TA1 and 999

## TA1 – Interchange Acknowledgement

- Validates that the first 106 characters are compliant with the ISA segment layout
- Failure results in file rejection

## 999 – File Acknowledgement

- Validate the X12 syntax
- Validate Implementation Guide (TR3) rules
- Failure results in rejection of the transaction set as defined by the ST/SE

# Implementation Guide Rules

- Enforce X12 syntax
  - Loops and segments are structured properly and in the right order
  - All required data elements are present
  - Applicable situational rules are enforced
  - Implementation Guide codes are valid

SITUATIONAL	SBR09	1032	Claim Filing Indicator Code Code identifying type of claim	O 1	ID	1/2
<b>SITUATIONAL RULE:</b> <i>Required prior to mandated use of the HIPAA National Plan ID. If not required by this implementation guide, do not send.</i>						
CODE	DEFINITION					
09	Self-pay					
11	Other Non-Federal Programs					
12	Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)					



Department  
of Health

# Response Files – 277CA Claim Acknowledgement

- All errors encountered and identified will be reported.
- The 277CA provides an indication of whether individual claims were accepted for further processing or rejected for facility correction.
- Error reporting will be at the claim level.
- STC12 is used to provide a human readable description of the reason for the rejection.
- When the source of the rejection is based on line level data, the STC12 description will include the affected procedure code.

# Response Files

## 277CA (cont.)

Example

HL\*4\*3\*PT~

NM1\*QC\*1\*smith\*john\*\*\*\*MI\*123456789~

TRN\*2\*1234506153101~

STC\*A7:486\*20170717\*U\*471\*\*\*\*\*H51000 The Procedure Code '12345' is  
not a valid CPT or HCPCS Code for this Date of Service.~

STC\*A7:486\*20170717\*U\*471\*\*\*\*\*H51000 The Procedure Code '54321' is  
not a valid CPT or HCPCS Code for this Date of Service.~

STC\*A7:486\*20170717\*U\*471\*\*\*\*\*H51000 The Procedure Code '1212Z' is  
not a valid CPT or HCPCS Code for this Date of Service.~

REF\*BLT\*131~

DTP\*472\*RD8\*20160815-20160815~

STC12



Department  
of Health

# Response Files

## Duplicate Edit and Adjustment/ Void Rejection Error File

- Duplicate editing and Adjustment/Void processing will be performed as part of the downstream processing after the 277CA has been created.
- A comma delimited (CSV) file containing data elements necessary to identify the rejected transaction will be produced.
- Files will only be created when errors are encountered.
- Data elements include:
  - Patient Control Number (CLM01)
  - Statement From and Thru Dates (DTP03 when DTP01 = 434)
  - File Processed Date
  - Error Description

# Response Files

## Rejected Claim Records in X12 837R Format

- This is the current “Error File” that is available for download.
- It will contain all rejected transactions in 837R format.

# Companion Guide

# Companion Guide

- 837 Claim: Health Data Reporting (X225A2 837R)
  - Developed to align, to the extent possible, with the HIPAA 837I (X223A2)
  - Collects demographic information (e.g., race/ethnicity)
  - NTE Segment used to collect Source of Payment Typology and Cardiac data elements
  - A review of over 900 files demonstrates 44% of current submissions will reject because they are not in the X225A2 837R format.
    - To find out if your files fall into this category, ask your EDI/IT team to check the value reported in ST03. That value must be '005010X225A2'.
- The SPARCS Website Data Submission page can be found on the “New Process” page at <https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/submission/>. On this page you can find documentation to support implementation.



Department  
of Health

# Transaction Set, Submitter and Receiver Loops

## Transaction Set

- ST - Transaction Set Header
  - ST03 - Implementation Convention Reference must be “005010X225A2”

## Submitter (1000A SUBMITTER NAME)

- PER - Submitter EDI Contact Information
  - Contact Information (Phone, Fax, or Email) for the Submitter is required

## Receiver (1000B RECEIVER NAME)

- NM1 - Receiver Name
  - Receiver Name and Receiver Primary Identifier are required
  - Required value for both fields is “SPARCS”

# Provider Loops

- Service Provider Name (2010AA)
- Attending Provider Name (2310A)
- Operating Physician Name (2310B / 2420A)
- Other Operating Physician Name (2310C / 2420B)
- Rendering Provider Name (2310D)
- Referring Provider Name (2310F)

# Provider Information

The following rules apply to all Provider Loops:

- NM1 Provider Name
  - Last Name/Organization Name is required
  - First Name, Middle Initial, and Suffix are required when available.
  - National Provider Identifier (NPI) is required for all providers
- REF Secondary Provider Identification
  - NYS License Number is no longer required

# Service Provider

- NM1 Service Provider Name
  - The qualifier for service provider (NM101) must be “SJ”.
  - “85” is not a valid qualifier for 5010 transactions.
- REF Service Provider Secondary Identification
  - The Permanent Facility Identifier (PFI) will continue to be required

# Subscriber/Patient

The following rules apply to both the Subscriber and Patient Loops:

- NM1 Subscriber/Patient Name
  - Last Name is required
  - First Name, Middle Initial, and Suffix are required when available
  - Primary Member Identifier is required
- N3 Subscriber/Patient Address
  - The address segments are required. If the patient is homeless with no address, use the facility address. The indication of homelessness is to be conveyed using Condition Code “17”.

# Subscriber/Patient (Cont.)

- N4 Subscriber/Patient City, State, ZIP Code
  - The City, State and Postal Code are required when appropriate.
  - State and Postal Code must be valid values.
  - Location Identifier – County must be reported using Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) County Codes.
- DMG Subscriber/Patient Demographic Information
  - Race and Ethnicity codes are required. This will require a minimum of one race code and one ethnicity code.
  - Marital Status is required
- REF Subscriber/Patient Secondary Identification
  - Social Security Number is required when available
  - Unique Person Identifier (UPID) is no longer required

# Subscriber/Patient (Cont.)

- Subscriber Information
  - SBR Subscriber Information
    - Subscriber Group Number is required if available.
    - Subscriber Group Name is required if available and the group number is not reported.
    - Claim Filing Indicator Code may contain any valid code. Relational edits with Payer ID, Policy Number, NPI, and Payment Typology will no longer be enforced.
  - NM1 Subscriber Name
    - Subscriber Name will allow both person and non-person qualifiers. When a non-person qualifier is reported, Organization Name is required and First, Middle and Suffix are not used.
- PAT Patient Information
  - Individual Relationship Code (Patient Relationship to Subscriber) is required.



Department  
of Health

# Payer Information

- NM1 Payer Name
  - Payer Organization Name is required.
  - Payer Identifier Code is required. Payer specific instructions are being eliminated.
- REF Payer Additional Identifier
  - No longer required. Payer specific instructions are being eliminated.

# Claim Information

- Submission Limits
  - Discharge dates more than 10 years old will no longer be accepted.
- CLM Claim Information
  - Total Claim Charge Amount of zero is allowed.
  - Facility Type Code is no longer limited. All valid values are allowed.
- DTP Discharge Hour
  - Discharge Hour is required for Inpatient only.
- DTP Statement Dates
  - Statement From Date can precede the Admission Date.
- DTP Admission Date/Hour
  - Admission Date and Hour are required for Inpatient only.



Department  
of Health

# Claim Information (Cont.)

- AMT Payer Estimated Amount Due
  - Estimated Claim Due Amount is not required.
- AMT Patient Estimated Amount Due
  - Patient Responsibility Amount is not required.
- REF Mother's Medical Record Number for Newborns
  - Mother's Medical Record Number is required when the age of the patient is 28 days or less and the Admission Type Code is "4 – Newborn".

# Claim Note (NTE)

The following data elements are being removed:

- Expected Principal Reimbursement
- Expected Reimbursement Other 1
- Expected Reimbursement Other 2
- Method of Anesthesia
- Exempt Unit Indicator
- Procedure Time

# Claim Note (NTE)

- The NTE segment will be in a delimited format using the “[“ as the delimiter.
- The NTE segment format is being modified to:

Data Element	Required/ Situational	Format	Max Length
Source of Payment Typology I	Required	AN	5
Source of Payment Typology II	Situational	AN	5
Source of Payment Typology III	Situational	AN	5
Heart Rate	Situational	AN	3
Blood Pressure Systolic	Situational	AN	3
Blood Pressure Diastolic	Situational	AN	3
Previous Patient Control Number (CLM01)	Situational	AN	38



# Adjustment/Void Processing

## Identifying Transaction to be Adjusted/Voided

- If the “Previous Patient Control Number” is submitted in the NTE segment:
  - Facility PFI (Loop 2010AA REF02 when REF01=1J – Facility ID Number)
  - Previous Patient Control Number (NTE)
- If the “Previous Patient Control Number” is not submitted in the NTE segment:
  - Facility PFI (Loop 2010AA REF02 when REF01=1J – Facility ID Number)
  - Patient Control Number (Loop 2300 – CLM01)
- If no match is found, the transaction will be rejected.

# Diagnosis Information

- Present on Admission Indicator
  - Required for Principal Diagnosis, Other Diagnoses and External Cause of Injury diagnoses
  - “1” is not a valid value
- Patient’s Reason For Visit
  - Patient Reason For Visit is required for outpatient visits

# Health Care Information

- All Valid Values may be reported for:
  - Occurrence Code
  - Value Code
  - Condition Code
  - Occurrence Span Code
- Occurrence Information
  - Associated Dates may be outside of the Statement Dates when appropriate

# Procedure Information

- Principal Procedure Date and Procedure Date edits rejecting procedures more than 3 days prior to the admission date have been removed.

# Service Line Information

- Service Line Revenue Code
  - Current edits using Non-Covered Charges have been removed
  - All valid values can be reported
- Procedure Modifiers 3 and 4 can now be reported
- Line Item Charge Amount
  - All restrictions have been removed
  - Zero is a valid amount
- Service Unit Count is required
- Line Item Denied Charge or Non-Covered Charge Amount current restrictions have been removed

## Reference Documentation Sources

### X12 Health Care Service: Data Reporting Implementation Guide

- 5010 837-R Health Care Service: Data Reporting
- Guide ID: X225
- <http://store.x12.org/store/healthcare-5010-original-guides>

### Official UB-04 Data Specifications Manual

- National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) / American Hospital Association
- <http://www.nubc.org/>

# Contact Information

**E-mail:** [SPARCS.submissions@health.ny.gov](mailto:SPARCS.submissions@health.ny.gov)

**Web Site:** <https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/submission/>

**Phone:**

(518) 473-8144

**Fax:**

(518) 486-3518

**Mailing Address:**

Bureau of All-Payer Systems and Informatics  
Division of Information and Statistics  
Office of Quality and Patient Safety  
NYS Department of Health  
Corning Tower, Room 1970  
Albany, New York 12237



**Department  
of Health**