PRESS ROOM

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Royal Health Care Launches New York State Encounter Data Interface

NEW YORK, N.Y. – Royal Health Care, LLC became one of the first vendors to successfully submit Health Plan encounter data files to New York State as part of the State's new MEDS II program.

MEDS II (Medicaid Encounter Data System) is a New York State reporting requirement for health plans providing Medicaid managed care and Family Health Plus coverage. The New York State Department of Health redesigned the former MEDS reporting system to include additional data elements and record types; the resulting specification is named MEDS II. The State uses encounter data for quality of care analysis, HEDIS calculations, rate setting, and other health care studies.

Royal Health Care programmed the new requirements into its core managed care application, PEGASYS. Data extracts are derived directly from adjudicated and posted claims. PEGASYS also edits the data for required fields prior to extract. The PEGASYS solution enables Health Plan clients to read remittance files back into the core application to ensure complete data capture.

Several of Royal's clients participate in the New York State program and were required to begin submitting data in the MEDS II format. On their behalf, the MEDS unit at Royal, in conjunction with the Royal Data Center, worked to program and test the new requirements both internally and in conjunction with the State of New York. Based upon Royal's success, its client Health Plans were designated in the first group to begin submitting files in production.

Cathy Weigle, Royal's Chief Operating Officer, commented, "We worked closely with the State to ensure that our interface worked well. We were also able to respond to new specification directives quickly-thanks to the programming staff in our Data Center. The PEGASYS solution will streamline this process for our clients."

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Royal Health Care is a leading provider of outsourced systems and services for health plans. Royal Health Care provides health payer support via PEGASYS managed care software and staffing for key health plan functions. Clients include small start-ups, Medicare and Medicaid plans, and large, national, commercial plans serving over 8 million lives. For more information, contact the Royal Business Development Team at (877) 248-6626.