

NUBC Approves Billing/Coding Changes

The **National Uniform Billing Committee** (NUBC) recently approved a series of changes to the Point of Origin code set (formerly "Source of Admission"). These changes become effective for discharges on or after July 1, 2010. This data element is reported in Form Locator 15 of the UB-04 and in CL102/Loop ID 2300 of the 837 Institutional implementation guide.

:: The changes made primarily affect the following:

- Three codes are eliminated and will no longer be valid for use(emphasis added):
 - Code 7 - Emergency Room
 - Code B - Transfer from Another Home Health Agency (has been replaced with new Condition Code 47)
 - Code C - Readmission to Same Home Health Agency
- The definitions to Codes 1 and 2 have been modified. Code 2 now includes both clinic and physician office points of origin.
- Also effective July 1, 2010 is new Condition Code P7 to indicate that the patient was admitted directly from this facility's Emergency Room/Department. It is FOR PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTING ONLY.
- Two of the code changes, the elimination of Point of Origin Codes B and C, affect home health agency billing. Beginning July 1, 2010, home health agencies that are aware of a transfer of a patient to another home health agency at the time of billing will no longer use Point of Origin Code B. Instead, these home health agencies must use Condition Code 47 to identify a transfer to another agency. Also effective as of that date, Code C ("Readmission to the Same Home Health Agency") will no longer be valid, eliminating the need to report discharge and readmission to the same home health agency.

For additional information on these changes, contact NUBC Secretary Todd Omundson at tomundson@aha.org .