



Partnering for Electronic Delivery
of Information in Healthcare

WEDI Hosts Successful NPI Hearing and ICD-10 Forum April 18-20

RESTON, VA-April 21, 2006 - More than 250 people attended the WEDI NPI Hearing on April 18th and the WEDI ICD- 10 Forum on April 19th and 20th. Both programs were held at the Renaissance Chicago O'Hare in Chicago, IL.

During the NPI Hearing, 25 representatives from a cross-section of healthcare stakeholder organizations presented verbal testimony to a hearing panel. Sixteen additional organizations submitted written testimony. The information received from all testimony will be organized into a report and recommendations that will be submitted to the WEDI Board of Directors for review and approval, and then submitted to NCVHS and HHS for their consideration. All testimonies will be posted to the WEDI website next week and a report on the hearing will be presented at the WEDI National Conference in Baltimore on May 25th.

Following the NPI Hearing, WEDI hosted a 1 ½-day ICD-10 Forum to discuss issues surrounding the possible adoption of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS.

Educational sessions were presented by an industry cross-section of speakers, and the audience then had the opportunity to discuss implementation issues such as: transition costs; finding opportunities to maximize the benefits; exploring areas where health care stakeholders can collectively work together to overcome and mitigate negative consequences of implementation; determining what is an adequate implementation timeline; and identifying what tools or resources would be needed for a realistic transition. A summary report and recommendations will be submitted to the WEDI Board of Directors for their review. It is anticipated that an action plan and additional industry forums will be forthcoming in the in the near future.

Upcoming WEDI Events

April 27, 2006, WEDI NPIOI Audiocast: *Don't Let the New HIPAA NPI Derail Your Claims Billing & Cash Flow*

May 22-25, 2006, WEDI National Conference
Baltimore, MD

11/6-9, 2006, WEDI Fall Conference
Phoenix, AZ

For more information on these events, visit <http://wedi.org/>

WEDI is a broad based healthcare industry coalition headquartered in Reston, Virginia, near Washington, DC. Inquiries for additional information may be directed to WEDI, c/o Jim Schuping, Executive Vice President/CEO, 12020 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 100, Reston, VA 20191. Phone: 703-391-2716; e-mail, jschuping@wedi.org.