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1 Straw Poll Background

On its 08/03/21 call, the CAQH CORE Code Combinations Task Group reviewed the results of the *Task Group Initial Straw Poll on Potential Compliance-based Adjustments to the CORE-required Code Combinations for CORE-defined Business Scenarios v3.6.4 June 2021*. Based on the Initial Straw Poll results and Task Group consensus reached on the call, the Task Group approved a subset of the potential Compliance-based Adjustments to the [CORE-required Code Combinations v3.6.4 June 2021](#) (see the Decisions Document for the 08/03/21 Task Group call, attached to the Follow-up Straw Poll email). All approved new code combinations meet the [CAQH CORE Code Combination Evaluation Criteria](#). On the call, the Task Group also agreed to conduct a Compliance-based Review (CBR) Follow-up Straw Poll to obtain participant feedback on:

- CORE-required CARCs submitted by respondents to the CBR Initial Straw Poll for association with the straw-pollled RARCs

The results of this CBR will be published by Friday, 10/01/21 as the *CORE-required Code Combinations v3.6.5 October 2021* and will supersede all previous versions of the *CORE Code Combinations*.

2 Straw Poll Format

The *Task Group Follow-up Straw Poll on Potential Compliance-based Adjustments to the CORE Code Combinations v3.6.4 June 2021* contains one section:

- *Section 1: Potential Compliance-based Adjustments for CARCs and RARCs Added to the Published List*

Additionally, for all questions, respondents were given the option to comment on their organization's position.

Table 1: Code Combinations included on the July 2021 Follow-up Straw Poll

CARC#	CARC Description	RARC#	RARC Description	ASC X12 CAGC
Potential CORE-defined Business Scenario #3: Billed Service Not Covered by Health Plan				
119	Benefit maximum for this time period or occurrence has been reached.	N853	The number of modalities performed per session exceeds our acceptable maximum.	CO, PI or PR
P31	Payment denied for exacerbation when treatment exceeds time allowed. To be used for Property and Casualty only.	N853	The number of modalities performed per session exceeds our acceptable maximum.	CO, PI or PR

3 Summary of Respondents

Responses to the Task Group straw poll were received from **81%** of the active CAQH CORE Code Combinations Task Group participating organizations and 5 key industry stakeholder types.

Table 2: Responses from Task Group Participating Entities by Number and Entity Type

Number of Active* Task Group Participating Entities	21
Total Number of Individual Organizational Responses	17 (81%)
Number of Health Plan/Health Plan Association Responses	8 (47% of respondents)
Number of Provider/Provider Association Responses	2 (12% of respondents)
Number of Vendor/Clearinghouse Responses	0 (0% of respondents)
Number of Government Responses (Medicaids, etc.)	1 (6% of respondents)
Number of Other Stakeholder Type Responses (SDO/Regional Entities, etc.)	6 (35% of respondents)

*NOTE: Active participants attended the majority of Task Group calls and responded to a majority of Task Group Straw Polls for the last 5 Compliance-based Reviews.

4 Summary of Results – Code Combinations Included on July 2021 CBR Follow-up Straw Poll

Section 1 of the follow-up straw poll asked respondents to indicate their organization’s support for adding two new code combinations to the *CORE Code Combinations*. As seen in Table 3 below, code combination CARC 119/RARC N853 received high support ($\geq 65\%$). As such, CAQH CORE staff and co-chairs recommend adding CARC 119/RARC N853 to the *CORE Code Combinations*.

As seen in Table 3 below, code combination CARC P31/RARC N853 received low support ($\leq 65\%$). As such, CAQH CORE staff and co-chairs do not recommend adding code combination P31/N853 to the *CORE Code Combinations*.

Table 3: Support to Add Combinations

CARC #	CARC Description	RARC #	RARC Description	% Support	# Abstains	Key Comment Issues (Based on Submitted Comments/ Analysis)	Co-Chair & CAQH CORE Staff Recommendation	Task Group Decision
Potential CORE-defined Business Scenario #3: Billed Service Not Covered by Health Plan								
119	Benefit maximum for this time period or occurrence has been reached.	N853	The number of modalities performed per session exceeds our acceptable maximum.	100%	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	Add to the <i>CORE Code Combinations</i>	
P31	Payment declined for exacerbation when treatment exceeds time allowed. To be used for Property and Casualty only.	N853	The number of modalities performed per session exceeds our acceptable maximum.	64%	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One respondent commented that these are inconsistent - modalities does not speak to time. Another respondent commented that they do not believe this meets the requirement to include since it is for P&C 	Do NOT add to the <i>CORE Code Combinations</i>	

5 Next Steps

Once the CAQH CORE Code Combination Task Group agrees to Compliance-based Adjustments to the *CORE Code Combinations v3.6.4 June 2021*, the updated *CORE Code Combinations v3.6.5 October 2021* will be published to the CAQH CORE website on 10/01/21 for industry implementation.

6 Appendix A: Summary of Results – By Stakeholder Type

Table A.1: Support for Adding Code Combinations by Stakeholder Type

**CAQH Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange (CORE)
Code Combinations Task Group**

Results: Task Group Initial Straw Poll on Potential Compliance-based Adjustments to the CORE Code Combinations v3.6.4

CARC #	CARC Description	RARC #	RARC Description	% Total Support	% Support Health Plans	% Support Providers	% Support Other
119	Benefit maximum for this time period or occurrence has been reached.	N853	The number of modalities performed per session exceeds our acceptable maximum.	100%	100%	100%	100%
P31	Payment declined for exacerbation when treatment exceeds time allowed. To be used for Property and Casualty only.	N853	The number of modalities performed per session exceeds our acceptable maximum.	64%	100%	50%	40%