

***We would like to encourage providers and others to also consider joining CORE. The Affordable Care Act of 2010 – includes in the legislation efforts to introduce “operating rules” to the HIPAA standards. The AHA would like to encourage organizations to engage in the development of operating rules for each of the HIPAA transaction by becoming members of CORE. Let’s make the standards more efficient and effective.***

### **Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange®**

CAQH CORE® is a multi-stakeholder initiative developing operating rules that:

- Streamline electronic healthcare administrative data exchange.
- Support interoperability between payers and providers.



[Learn how](#) stakeholders are working together to:

- Implement federally mandated CAQH CORE operating rules for eligibility, benefits, electronic remittance, and other claim-related transactions.
- Reduce the amount of time and resources providers spend on administrative functions

## **Join CORE**

The Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange (CORE) is a multi-stakeholder membership group organized and facilitated by CAQH. CORE is responsible for developing operating rules that govern the exchange of information as it relates to administrative data transactions. It is critical to the success of this industry-wide effort to engage stakeholders throughout the healthcare system.

By participating, your organization will have a voice in the development of the operating rules, and will be contributing to an important solution that will address complexity found in the healthcare system today. Please fill out the application and join us today.

We look forward to working with you on this exciting initiative.

For more information on CORE or to inquire about participation in CORE, email: [CORE@caqh.org](mailto:CORE@caqh.org).

## Updated Version Available for Implementation: May 2013 CORE Code Combinations v3.0.2

**To:** All HIPAA Covered Entities and Business Associates

**From:** The CAQH CORE Code Combinations Task Group Co-Chairs

The purpose of this communication is to announce that an updated version of the *CORE-required Code Combinations for the CORE-defined Business Scenarios (CORE Code Combinations)* is now available for use with [CAQH CORE 360: Uniform Use of CARCs and RARCs Rule](#). CAQH CORE Rule 360 enables more uniform use of the [Claim Adjustment Reason Codes \(CARCs\)](#) and [Remittance Advice Remark Codes \(RARCs\)](#) by targeting a *minimum* set of common or problematic Business Scenarios along with a *maximum* specified set of code combinations for each of these Scenarios. The *CORE Code Combinations* must be updated to align with the current published CARC and RARC lists which are maintained by code committees and updated at least three times per year.

The [CORE-required Code Combinations for the CORE-defined Business Scenarios v3.0.2 May 2013](#) is now available on the CAQH CORE website for use with CAQH CORE 360 Rule. The *May 2013 CORE Code Combinations* includes Compliance-based Adjustments to the *CORE Code Combinations* approved by the CAQH CORE Code Combinations Task Group based on the March 2013 published CARC and RARCs lists. A marked-up version of the *May 2013 CORE Code Combinations* showing Compliance-based Adjustments between v.3.0.1 and v.3.0.2 is available [HERE](#) and a table summarizing the adjustments is available [HERE](#).

CAQH CORE 360 Rule is part of the ACA mandated [CAQH CORE EFT & ERA Operating Rules](#) which all HIPAA covered entities are required to implement by January 1, 2014. The *May 2013 CORE Code Combinations* is the second of regular version updates to the *CORE Code Combinations* for use with CAQH CORE 360 Rule. By January 2014, entities should have an established process and policy for implementing the regular updates to the *CORE Code Combinations*. There will be at least one more Compliance-based Review of the *CORE Code Combinations* prior to January 1, 2014.

For more information click [HERE](#) for a list of FAQs addressing CAQH CORE 360 Rule and the *CORE Code Combinations*. Next week, the CAQH CORE Code Combinations Task Group will begin preparing for the first Market-based Review of the *CORE Code Combinations*. CORE Participants are encouraged to get involved with the Task Group.

Please do not hesitate to contact [core@caqh.org](mailto:core@caqh.org) with any additional questions.

# Join Us



## Let's Write the Rules Together

Building a framework for electronic data exchange that providers can trust — one where all partners follow the same IT rules to deliver an expected, robust set of data – resulting in:

- Streamlined eligibility, benefits, and claim data transactions
- Simplified claim payments and matching
- Reduced time and resources spent on administrative functions

Input from all stakeholders, including hospitals, health systems and providers, is essential to ensure the rules deliver the greatest possible value to the field overall. Your participation ensures hospitals and health systems have a voice and a seat at the table as new rules are developed. *Join us today.*



### What is CAQH CORE?

We're your peers, partners and the companies you exchange administrative data with – a collaboration of hospitals, provider groups, health plans, clearinghouses, public agencies, and other health care organizations. Together, we are reducing wasteful administrative cost and needless frustration by establishing "rules of the road" to support electronic data exchange.

*"CORE brings industry stakeholders together and uses a consensus-driven model to ensure operating rules deliver value to everyone, especially those that need to implement – both providers and health plans. As chairman of the new CORE Board, I can tell you that provider voices and perspectives are critically important to the development of operating rules."*

-George Conklin  
Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Christus Health  
Chairman of the CAQH CORE Board  
AHA Member

## Become a Member Today

CAQH CORE has been tapped by HHS to write the new operating rules. Be part of a solution that is taking cost and complexity out of the health care system:

- Contribute at all stages of the rule-writing process.
- Help design a national set of testing and certification requirements.
- Advance the work of subgroups and work groups as a volunteer leader.
- Vote on draft operating rules.
- Access special CAQH CORE Education Sessions for CORE Participating Organizations.

### For hospitals, dues are based on net annual revenue:

Up to \$1 billion in net annual revenue .....	\$500 annual participation fee
\$1 billion to \$3 billion in net annual revenue .....	\$1,000 annual participation fee
Over \$3 billion in net annual revenue .....	\$3,000 annual participation fee

For advisory organizations representing providers, such as state hospital associations, dues are a flat \$1,500 annually. Public agencies are invited to participate at no cost.

Visit [http://caqh.org/CORE\\_join.php](http://caqh.org/CORE_join.php) to download the CORE Participation Application or contact a CORE representative for more information by emailing [CORE@CAQH.org](mailto:CORE@CAQH.org).

# Join Us

## Be part of a solution that is taking cost and complexity out of the health care system:

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- Help design a national set of testing and certification requirements.
- Advance the work of subgroups and work groups as a volunteer leader.
- Vote on draft operating rules.
- Access special CAQH CORE Education Sessions for CORE Participating Organizations.

CAQH CORE welcomes Participating Organizations representing a range of stakeholder groups and specifically encourages hospitals and health systems to participate.

*For hospitals and health systems that deliver care, dues are based on net annual revenue:*

Up to \$1 billion in net annual revenue .....	\$500 annual participation fee
\$1 billion to \$3 billion in net annual revenue .....	\$1,000 annual participation fee
Over \$3 billion in net annual revenue .....	\$3,000 annual participation fee

For advisory organizations representing providers, such as state hospital associations, dues are a flat \$1,500 annually.

Public agencies are invited to participate at no cost. CAQH CORE participation is also available to health plans, vendors and others.

Visit [http://caqh.org/CORE\\_join.php](http://caqh.org/CORE_join.php) to download the CORE Participation Application or contact a CORE representative for more information by emailing [CORE@CAQH.org](mailto:CORE@CAQH.org).

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## Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare

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## Let's Write the Rules Together



Help us build a framework for electronic data exchange that providers can trust — one where all partners follow the same IT rules to deliver an expected, robust set of data — resulting in:

- Streamlined eligibility, benefits, and claim data transactions.
- Simplified claim payments and matching.
- Reduced time and resources spent on administrative functions.

## Join us today.



# Benefits of Membership

## **What is the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange (CAQH CORE)?**

**We're your peers, partners, and the companies you exchange administrative data with** — a collaboration of hospitals and health systems, provider groups, health plans, clearinghouses, public agencies, and other health care organizations.

**Together, we are reducing wasteful administrative cost and needless frustration by establishing "rules of the road" to support electronic data exchange.**

Our consensus-driven approach and focus on driving cost out of the system by making foundational change led the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to select CAQH CORE to author the Affordable Care Act (ACA)-mandated operating rules.

***"CORE brings industry stakeholders together and uses a consensus-driven model to ensure operating rules deliver value to everyone, especially those that need to implement – both providers and health plans. As chairman of the new CORE Board, I can tell you that provider voices and perspectives are critically important to the development of operating rules."***

—George Conklin  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Information Officer,  
Christus Health  
Chairman of the CAQH CORE Board  
AHA Member

***"Montefiore was an early adopter of CAQH CORE Eligibility and Claim Status Operating Rules. After becoming certified, we were able to quantify very promising results. By implementing these rules, we reduced eligibility denials, increased the percentage of patients verified, and reduced the time needed to verify each patient, resulting in significant cost savings."***

—Joel Perlman  
Executive Vice President, Finance,  
and Chief Financial Officer,  
Montefiore Medical Center  
CAQH CORE Board Member  
AHA Member



**CAQH CORE Operating Rules** are already reducing cost and streamlining operations across the health care system, yet there is more work to be done. CAQH CORE Participants are developing additional operating rules and a testing and certification process now, a process that would benefit from your perspective.

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**Savings estimate: Between \$300 million and \$3.3 billion over 10 years for providers, including hospitals and health systems, and health plans.**

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Your participation ensures hospitals and health systems have a voice and a seat at the table as new rules are developed.

Input from all stakeholders, including hospitals, health systems and providers, is essential to ensure the rules deliver the greatest possible value to the field overall.

***"The work of CAQH CORE doesn't stop after the operating rules are developed. CAQH CORE offers valuable guidance, tools, and resources that help organizations successfully implement the operating rules. As providers, we know how important it is to get implementation right."***

—Katie LeBlanc  
Director, Revenue Integrity,  
Dignity Health  
CAQH CORE Board Member  
AHA Member