

Success Stories...

MHDO and DataBay Extend Partnership With New Contract for Check

The Challenge

Under Maine state law, the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) coordinates the inpatient and outpatient data collection process for its 41 hospitals. Initially, MHDO verified all of the data for errors and then returned the data to the hospitals to make corrections and resubmissions. The decision was made to transfer data editing responsibilities back to Maine's hospitals beginning in the fall of 2001 in an effort to streamline this process. MHDO needed to provide all of the hospitals with a data editing software system that was user-friendly and would increase efficiency by reducing errors in data submitted and avoiding data resubmissions.

The Solution

DataBay Resources responded to MHDO's RFP process, introducing the organization to its Check software. Check is a data editor that allows the user to validate and edit discharge data for accuracy, prior to submitting it to data collection organizations like MHDO. Check streamlines UB04 data correction and creates a file to submit either UB92 or UB04 data directly to the collection organization via the Internet, with minimal cost and effort. Check is user friendly and reasonably priced, and it provides updates at no charge, including those specially designed to meet future data collection organization requirements. MHDO and DataBay signed their first contract in October 2001 for DataBay to install and support the Check software at MHDO and in the 41 Maine hospitals.

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Alan Prysunka
Executive Director,
Maine Health Data Organization

"The shift away from central editing provided us with a much more efficient way of ensuring the integrity of the data, and DataBay successfully answered our RFP," explains Alan Prysunka, executive director of MHDO. "Since 2001, the Check software resides within each facility, and errors can now be corrected with greater proficiency. In addition, if issues occur or we offer suggestions for improvements to Check, the staff at DataBay is always willing to make enhancements for us. And, the customer support has been consistently great."

Check reviews all required fields, and identifies and allows for easy correction of repeated errors, saving valuable staff time. It provides correction hints, identifies error patterns to help eliminate future errors and streamlines data transmissions. With Check, MHDO has recognized improvements in the integrity of submitted data, increased efficiency in submissions, and a significant reduction in time spent correcting errors.

The Outcome

MHDO and DataBay Resources have signed a new five-year contract for MHDO to continue using DataBay Check in all 41 of its hospitals through the year 2012.

“It was certainly the logical choice to continue our successful relationship with DataBay,” remarks Prysunka. “DataBay is an intuitive system. The screens are clear and the codes are well written. I don’t know of any other system that operates as cost-effectively as DataBay’s, and their Application Support Team is responsive to any issues that arise. It just made good business sense to extend this relationship.”

“This is a much more effective way for data editing to occur,” Prysunka continues. “It’s better for the hospitals, it’s better for MHDO, and it’s better for the people of Maine because we can trust the integrity of the data we are using to modify practice patterns, shift costs and improve access to quality care.”

“I anticipate our partnership with DataBay to continue for a long time,” he concludes. “DataBay Resources is positioning itself as a market leader with Check. It’s a great product, offered at a fair price, and supported by superior customer service. I have a lot of admiration for the staff at DataBay, and trust that they’ll continue to be responsive to our needs going forward.”

The Partners

Maine Health Data Organization

The Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) was established by the Maine Legislature in 1996 as an independent executive agency to collect clinical and financial health care information and to exercise responsible stewardship in making this information accessible to the public while protecting patient confidentiality and respecting providers of care. Its mission is to create and maintain a useful, objective, reliable and comprehensive health information database that is used to improve the health of Maine citizens. In 2007, the National Association of Health Data Organizations presented MHDO with its Award of Excellence for successful implementation of the nation’s first statewide all payer all claims reporting system and for serving as a model for other state systems. Visit the web site at <http://mhdo.maine.gov/imhdo/>.

DataBay Resources

DataBay Resources is a national leader in market analysis systems. Since 2000, DataBay has provided valuable, cutting-edge, customized health care market intelligence software, reporting services and analysis to improve the market and financial positions of hospitals, health systems and ambulatory surgery centers. DataBay’s Check software saves clients time, money and other valuable staff resources by ensuring the integrity of their data submission process. The Check data editor allows users to validate and edit discharge data for accuracy prior to submission. Clients also benefit from the expertise of the DataBay Application Support Team, whose multiple years of experience with the software tools have prepared them to address issues with proficiency. For more information, visit the web site at www.databayresources.com.