

RealMed's Achieves CAQH CORE™ Certification for Consistent Healthcare Administrative Data Exchange

INDIANAPOLIS, November 6, 2008 -- RealMed, a leader in web-based, medical provider revenue cycle management software solutions and services, announced today that it has received a CAQH Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange (CORE™) Phase I Certification Seal. The CORE Seal was awarded after RealMed successfully completed certification testing – a process ensuring that healthcare organizations can electronically exchange or access patient insurance information according to the CORE Phase I rules.

CORE certification ensures that RealMed users can securely process electronic eligibility queries within 20 seconds and that providers will receive consistent patient administrative information.

The CORE rules, which build upon national standards, including HIPAA's eligibility (X12 270/271) transaction, make electronic administrative data communications seamless, streamlined and predictable, regardless of the technology. In many cases, the CORE rules eliminate the need for time-consuming phone calls and paperwork.

According to a recent CAQH study, providers may reduce labor costs associated with verifying insurance coverage as much as 50 percent by moving from labor-intensive verification methods (Web, fax and phone) to automated HIPAA transactions. Health plans also could achieve significant labor savings, as the study showed that average labor costs per phone call are \$1.38 vs. \$0.00 for an automated transaction.

CAQH, a nonprofit alliance of health plans and trade associations, launched CORE to promote health plan-provider interoperability and improve provider access to administrative information. To date, the voluntary industry-wide initiative has brought together more than 100 healthcare industry stakeholders – health plans, providers, vendors, CMS and other government agencies, associations, regional entities, standard-setting organizations and banking industry experts – to develop the operating rules. These stakeholders cover more than 130 million lives, or more than 75 percent of the commercially insured plus Medicare and state-based Medicaid beneficiaries.

"The CORE rules represent a cutting-edge approach to streamlining electronic administrative data exchange," said Robin J. Thomashauer, CAQH executive director. "By adopting the rules and completing CORE certification, RealMed is reducing unnecessary healthcare administrative burden, and helping U.S. healthcare become more efficient and responsive to patient concerns."

About RealMed

RealMed is the vanguard of a new era in health care administration that uses the power of the internet to automate health care transactions and information exchange between health care professionals. This capability, together with more powerful enhancement features, can dramatically improve administrative efficiency and time to payment performance. RealMed serves a large number of providers ranging from small practices to large academic medical centers and specialty providers. Visit us at www.realmed.com

About CAQH

CAQH is a catalyst for industry collaboration on initiatives that simplify healthcare administration for health plans and providers, resulting in a better care experience for patients and caregivers. CAQH and its members are working to achieve a healthcare system in which administrative processes are efficient, predictable, and easily understood by patients, caregivers and providers. In this system, administrative and clinical data are integrated to effectively support the delivery of care. Visit www.caqh.com for more information.