

## **NUBC ANNOUNCES APPROVAL OF UB-04**

Following the close of a public comment period and careful review of comments received, the National Uniform Billing Committee approved the UB-04 as the replacement for the UB-92 at its February 2005 meeting.

Receivers (health plans and clearinghouses) need to be ready to receive the new UB-04 by March 1, 2007. Submitters (health care providers such as hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, hospice, and other institutional claim filers) can use the UB-04 beginning March 1, 2007, however, they will have a transitional period between March 1, 2007 and May 22, 2007 where they can use the UB-04 or the UB-92. Starting May 23, 2007 all institutional paper claims must use the UB-04; the UB-92 will no longer be acceptable after this date.

## **INFORMATION ON UB-04**

A subscription to a printable electronic version of the UB-04 Data Specifications Manual (Beta 1) is available from the NUBC. An NUBC subcommittee is in the process of reviewing this manual for enhancements and improvements.

The subscription price is \$150 payable by check or credit card and entitles the subscriber to receive updated Beta Releases as well as the initial release of the final manual. The subscription period will run approximately 15 months (through August 2006) as the NUBC anticipates releasing the final manual at least six months prior to the March 1, 2007 implementation date of UB-04. During this six-month period, the NUBC will try to keep the addition of (effective) new codes to a minimum. E-mail Todd Omundson, NUBC Secretary, at [tomundson@aha.org](mailto:tomundson@aha.org) for further information.

With minor exception, the field attributes in the Beta manual correspond to the marked-up UB-04 proof and the UB-92 to UB-04 Crosswalk posted at <http://www.nubc.org/public/whatsnew/UB-04Proofs.pdf>. The field size/buffer space as indicated in the Crosswalk takes precedence over conflicting specs in Beta 1 (i.e., FL58, 59, 61, 62, 64, 74, 75, 80).

Full color paper proofs of the UB-04 form are available for mechanical, scanning and other testing purposes from:

TFP Data Systems  
Compliance Department  
3451 Jupiter Court  
Oxnard, CA 93030  
Contact: Jim Magdaleno  
800-482-9367 ext. 1770  
E-mail: [jrmagdaleno@tfpdata.com](mailto:jrmagdaleno@tfpdata.com)

For more information on the development and the changes incorporated into the UB-04, see the NUBC meeting minutes (available to subscribers) and <http://www.nubc.org/public/whatsnew/UB-04Proofs.pdf>.