

Webinar Series: CAQH CORE & NACHA -

# Understanding the Current State of Healthcare Payments, with InstaMed

June 22, 2021

2:00-3:00 pm EST

# CAQH<sub>®</sub> CORE



# Agenda

- NACHA Overview, Trends & Payment Standard
- CAQH CORE Overview, Trends & Payment/Remittance Operating Rules
- InstaMed Trends in Healthcare Payments: Eleventh Annual Report
- Conversation
- Q&A

# Housekeeping



You can download the presentation slides now from the "Handouts" section of the GoToWebinar menu.

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Questions can be submitted *at any time* using the **Questions panel on the GoToWebinar dashboard.** 

# Thank You to Our Speakers

#### **Deirdre Ruttle**

Chief Marketing Officer | InstaMed Head of Wholesale Payments Healthcare Marketing | J.P. Morgan

#### **Brad Smith, AAP**

Senior Director, Industry Engagement and Advocacy Nacha

**Erin Weber** 

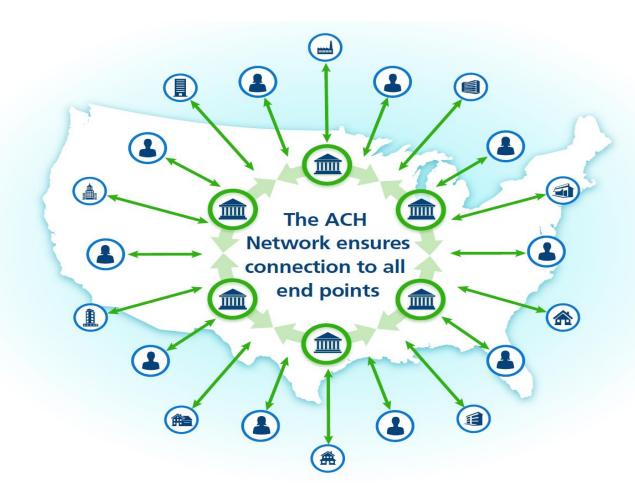
Director CAQH CORE

#### Healthcare EFT Payments

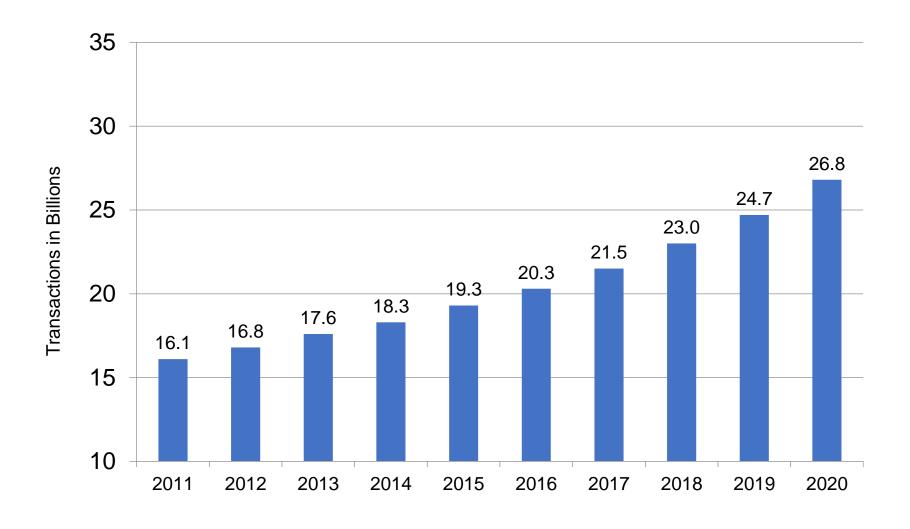
June 2021



#### The Strength of the ACH Network

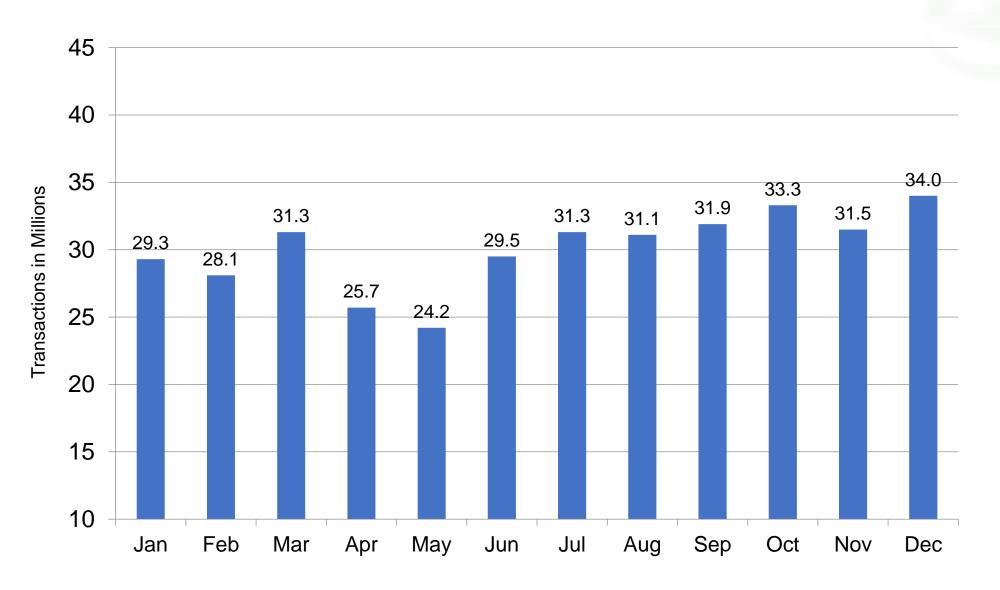


#### The ACH Network is Thriving





#### Healthcare EFT Volume - 2020



#### ACH Network Volume – 2021

# Volume across major transaction types compared to 1Q 2020

96.6M

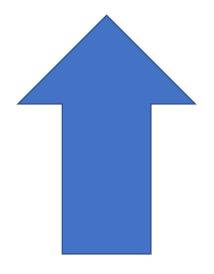
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76.5M

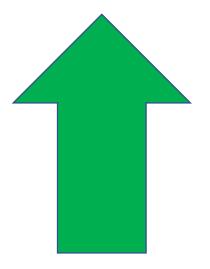
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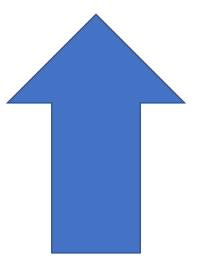
#### 2020 CAQH Index Report



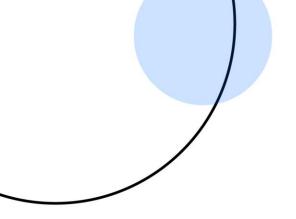
Entire healthcare industry EFT volume rose 5.4%



Medical EFT volume was up 3.4%



Dental EFT volume was up 93%





Brad Smith, AAP Senior Director, Industry Engagement and Advocacy 703-981-2072

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# CAQH CORE Overview & Payment/Remittance Operating Rules

**Erin Weber** Director, CAQH CORE



#### **CAQH CORE Mission/Vision & Industry Role**

Industry-led, CAQH CORE Participants include healthcare providers, health plans, vendors, government entities, associations and standard-setting organizations. Health plans participating in CAQH CORE represent **75 percent of the insured US population**.

MISSION

Drive the creation and adoption of healthcare operating rules that **support** standards, accelerate interoperability and align administrative and clinical activities among providers, payers and consumers.

**VISION** 

An **industry-wide facilitator** of a trusted, simple and sustainable healthcare data exchange that evolves and aligns with market needs.

**INDUSTRY ROLE** 

**Develop business rules to help industry** effectively and efficiently use electronic standards while remaining technology- and standard-agnostic.

**DESIGNATION** 

CAQH CORE is the national operating rule author to improve the efficiency, accuracy and effectiveness of industry-driven business transactions and designated by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as the operating rule authoring entity for HIPAA-covered administrative transactions.



CAQH CORE BOARD **Multi-stakeholder.** Members include health plans, providers (some of which are appointed by associations such as the AHA, AMA, MGMA), vendors, and government entities. Advisors to the Board include SDOs (X12, HL7, NACHA, NCPDP) and WEDI.



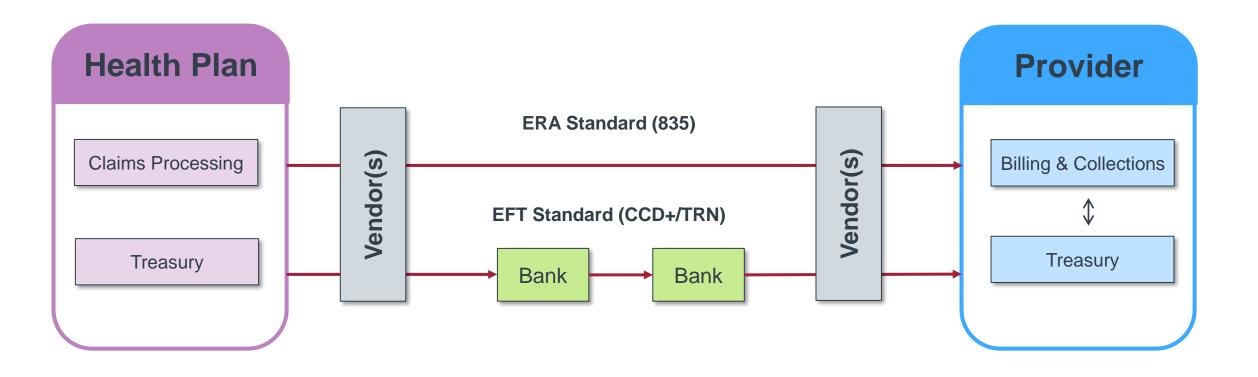
#### **CAQH CORE Operating Rules**

Rule Set	Infrastructure	Connectivity Rule Application	Data Content	Other
Eligibility & Benefits	Eligibility (270/271) Infrastructure Rule	Connectivity Rule vC1.0.0 Connectivity Rule vC2.0.0	Eligibility (270/271) Data Content Rule	Single Patient Attribution Data Rule
Claim Status	Claim Status (276/277) Infrastructure Rule	Connectivity Rule vC2.0.0		
Payment & Remittance	Claim Payment/ Advice (835) Infrastructure Rule		EFT/ERA 835/CCD+ Data Content Rule	EFT/ERA Enrollment Data Rules
Prior Authorization & Referrals	Prior Authorization (278) Infrastructure Rule	Connectivity Rule vC3.0.0	Prior Authorization (278) Data Content Rule	Prior Auth Web Portal Rule
Health Care Claims	Health Care Claim (837) Infrastructure Rule			
Benefit Enrollment	Benefit Enrollment (834) Infrastructure Rule			Rules in purple boxes are federally mandated.
Premium Payment	Premium Payment (820) Infrastructure Rule			
Attributed Patient Roster	Attributed Patient Roster (834) Infrastructure Rule	Connectivity Rule vC4.0.0*	Attributed Patient Roster (834)  Data Content Rule	Certification.



#### **EFT and ERA Transaction Flow**

Operating Rules Represent the Convergence of Financial Services and Healthcare



#### **CAQH CORE Payment & Remittance Operating Rule Requirements**

CAQH CORE Payment & Remittance Operating Rules are federally mandated, except for rule requirements pertaining to Acknowledgements.

	DATA CONTENT		
Health Care Claim Payment/Advice (835) Infrastructure Rule  Includes CAQH CORE Master Companion Guide. Requires CAQH CORE Connectivity Rule. Details batch acknowledgement requirements.	<ul> <li>EFT/ERA Reassociation (CCD+/835) Rule</li> <li>Addresses provider receipt of the CAQH CORE-required minimum ACH CCD+ Data Elements required for reassociation as well as elapsed time between sending and receipt.</li> <li>Determines requirements for resolving late/missing EFT/ERA transactions.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>EFT &amp; ERA Enrollment         Data Rules</li> <li>Identifies a maximum set of standard data elements for EFT enrollment.</li> <li>Requires health plan to offer electronic EFT enrollment.</li> <li>Requires providers to specify preference for how payments should be made.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Uniform Use of CARCs &amp; RARCs (835) Rule</li> <li>Identifies four CAQH COREdefined Business Scenarios with a set of required code combinations that convey details of the claim denial or payment to the provider.</li> </ul>



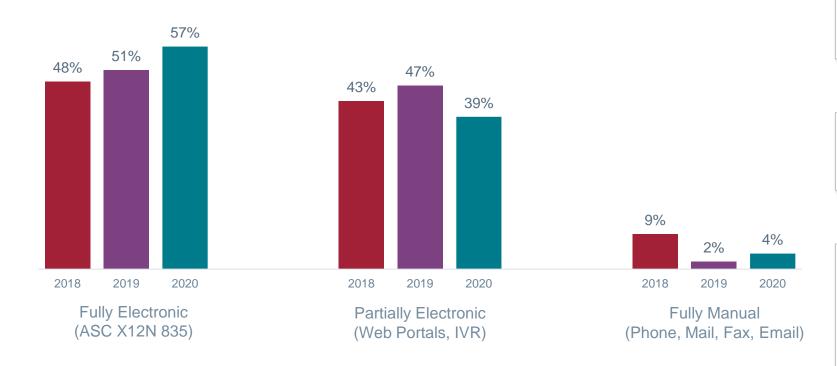
#### Benefits of CAQH CORE Payment & Remittance Operating Rules

#### **Key Benefits:**

- **Improves cash flow** via expedited payment and remittance reconciliation through the receipt of electronic payments and remittances.
- Eliminates the need for manual re-keying of reconciliations of EFTs and ERAs by requiring a trace number that links the two transactions.
- Increases ability to conduct targeted payment issue follow-ups through uniform and maintained ERA codes (CARCs, RARCs, and CAGCs).
- Standardizes enrollment for EFT/ERA so providers can sign up for both EFT and ERA electronically.
- Automates re-association of EFT and ERA leading to efficiencies and reduced errors.

#### **2020 CAQH Index Key Findings**

#### Medical Plan Adoption of Remittance Advice, 2018-2020 CAQH Index



Medical plan adoption of electronic remittance advice continued to increase, rising six percentage points (51% to 57%).

Dental plans also showed an increase in adoption year over year, rising three percentage points to 25 percent.

The medical and dental industries combined spent \$7 billion on remittance advice transactions, representing the second highest transaction expense after eligibility and benefit verification.

# Trends in Healthcare Payments Annual Report

- Commissioned surveys consumers, providers and payers
- InstaMed Platform data
- Third-party sources









## Digital Surge of 2020

#### Finding Virtual Alternatives to In-Person Encounters



#### Internet as a necessity

87% of Americans say the internet is important during COVID-19, including 53% who said it has been essential.



#### Moving payments online

\$211.5 billion was spent on ecommerce in the second quarter of 2020, up 31.8% quarter over quarter.



#### **Future with digital payments**

Almost 7 in 10 consumers worldwide say the shift to digital payments will likely be permanent.

Pew Research Center, 53% of Americans Say the Internet Has Been Essential During the COVID-19 Outbreak, April 2020

J.P.Morgan, How COVID-19 Has Transformed Consumer Spending Habits, November 2020

Mastercard, Mastercard Study Shows Consumers Globally Make the Move to Contactless Payments for Everyday Purchases, Seeking Touch-Free Payment Experiences, April 2020



#### **Healthcare Goes Virtual**

#### Telehealth Interest and Usage Grows





#### **Telehealth use increases rapidly**

Telehealth visits increased by 50% in the first quarter of 2020, compared with the same period in 2019.



#### Virtual preference

26% of respondents would prefer a virtual relationship with a primary care physician.



#### Medicare + telehealth growth

9 million Medicare beneficiaries used telehealth during COVID-19.



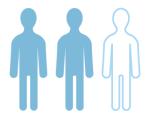
Health Affairs, Early Impact of CMS Expansion of Medicare Telehealth During COVID-19, July 2020

UnitedHealthcare, 2020 UnitedHealthcare Consumer Sentiment Survey, September 2020



#### Harsh Realities of Healthcare Costs

#### Stress of Affording Large Healthcare Bills



Two-thirds of adults worry about unexpected medical bills.



**50% of U.S. adults** fear bankruptcy due to a major health event.



1 in 7 Americans
who likely had COVID
avoided care due to costs.

JAMA Network, US Statistics on Surprise Medical Billing, February 2020 Gallup, 50% in U.S. Fear Bankruptcy Due to Major Health Event, September 2020 Gallup, In U.S., 14% With Likely COVID-19 to Avoid Care Due to Cost, April 2020



## What's Going on Here?

Surprise, Confusion and Frustration in Healthcare Payments



# 80% of consumers were surprised by a medical bill, including those who:

Got a bill for more than expected

Got an unexpected bill

Sent to collections

InstaMed Consumer Healthcare Payments Survey 2020



## **New Consumer Expectations After 2020**

How the Pandemic Is Shaping Consumer POV

#### Contactless options after the pandemic



**76% of consumers** expect telehealth to be an option in the future.



**78% of consumers**want contactless options to remain in the future.

InstaMed Consumer Healthcare Payments Survey 2020







## **Startling Disconnect**

Providers Still Don't See How Payments Impact Patient Experience



42% of providers
think collection efforts have no impact on
the patient experience.



#### 56% of consumers

would consider switching providers for a better healthcare payments experience, including having the ability to understand costs upfront and make payments how they want.



InstaMed Provider Healthcare Payments Survey 2020
InstaMed Consumer Healthcare Payments Survey 2020

# Falling Short of Payment Expectations

Sentiment Reveals How Far Apart Payment Expectations Are From Reality

**66% of consumers** receive medical bills in the mail



VS.



**only 14% of consumers** prefer to pay medical bills via mailed paper check.

**86% of consumers** pay recurring bills online



VS.



**58% of providers** rely on mailed paper statements to collect.



### Harsh Financial Impacts of the Pandemic



Healthcare spending was down 2% in 2020.



Total projected losses to hospitals and health systems in 2020 at least \$323 billion.



73% of providers
reported lower volume of patients after initial COVID-19 shutdowns.

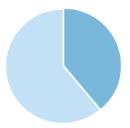
KFF, COVID-19 Is Causing Health Spending to Go Down, December 2020

American Hospital Association, Hospitals and Health Systems Continue to Face Unprecedented Financial Challenges due to COVID-19, June 2020

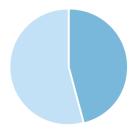
InstaMed Provider Healthcare Payments Survey 2020



## Harsh Financial Impacts of the Pandemic



**39% of providers** said their primary revenue cycle concern was related to the COVID-19 pandemic.



46% of providers
relied on outside funding to remain in business
(e.g., government stimulus funding, business
loans, etc.).



# **Outdated Collection Methods Come Up Short**



93% of providers

rely on manual and paper payment methods to collect.



93% of providers

issue patient refunds.



63% of providers

take 30+ days to collect after a patient encounter.



84% of providers

receive paper checks from one or more payers.



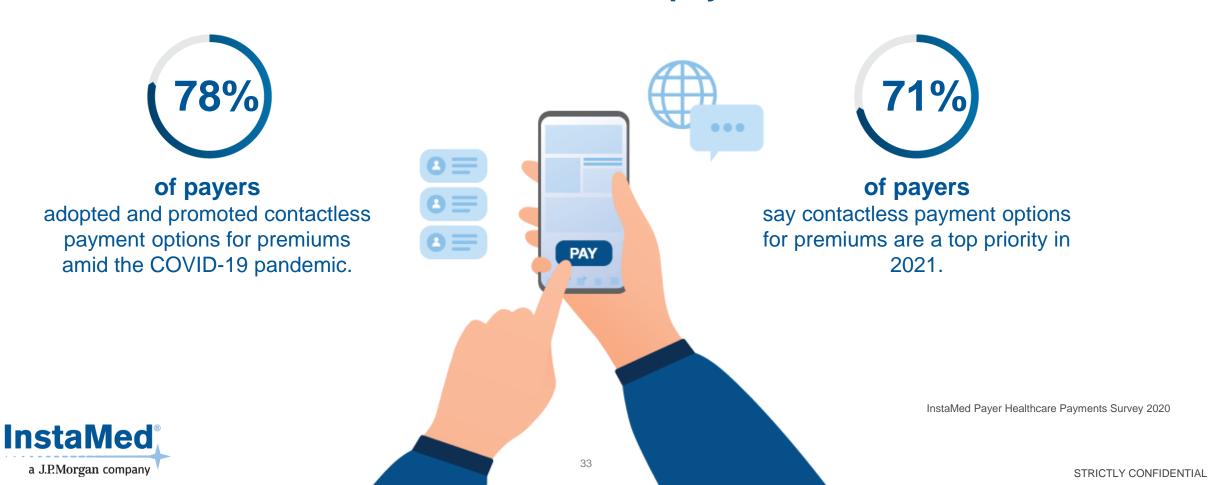
InstaMed Provider Healthcare Payments Survey 2020





## The Pandemic's Impact on Payers

#### **Increase in contactless payments**



# **Too Much Paper and Fees in Claim Payments**



of providers
cannot enroll in ERA/EFT with one or more payers.



of payers
pay providers with paper and fee-based
options.



InstaMed Provider Healthcare Payments Survey 2020
InstaMed Payer Healthcare Payments Survey 2020

# **Too Much Paper and Fees in Claim Payments**



#### Only half of providers

were offered a choice to opt out of virtual card payments.



#### 38% of providers

were dissatisfied with the processing fees associated with virtual cards.



#### 61% of providers

found the process of opting out of virtual cards to be cumbersome and difficult.



Aite, Providers and Virtual Cards: Trends and Acceptance, October 2020

### **Electronic Payments Must Dominate**





of health plan executives
say improving the clinician experience is:

say improving the clinician experience is a priority in 2021.



#### of providers

prefer EFT from payers, 12% of providers prefer paper checks, 2% of providers prefer virtual cards.



PwC Health Research Institute, Health executive survey, August-September 2020

InstaMed Provider Healthcare Payments Survey 2020





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# Conversation with Nacha, InstaMed & CAQH CORE

#### **Deirdre Ruttle**

Chief Marketing Officer | InstaMed Head of Wholesale Payments Healthcare Marketing | J.P. Morgan

#### **Brad Smith, AAP**

Senior Director, Industry
Engagement and Advocacy
Nacha

**Erin Weber** 

Director CAQH CORE

**Jessica Porras** 

Senior Manager CAQH CORE

**Moderator** 

# Audience Q&A

Ask our speakers anything

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# Upcoming CAQH CORE Education Sessions and Events

**CAQH CORE & WEDI: Telehealth Webinar** 

July 9, 2021 1:00-2:00 PM EST

CAQH CORE & HealthTrio: Implementation of Operating Rules for Prior Authorization Webinar

August 18, 2021 2:00-3:00 PM EST



# Contact Your Health Plans - <u>Sample Provider EFT</u> <u>Request Letter</u>

Contact Your Banks - <u>Sample Provider EFT</u>
 <u>Reassociation Data Request Letter</u>





- Healthcare Payments Resources Website
- Healthcare Payments Resource Guide
- Revised ACH Primer for Healthcare Payments

# Thank you for joining us!



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