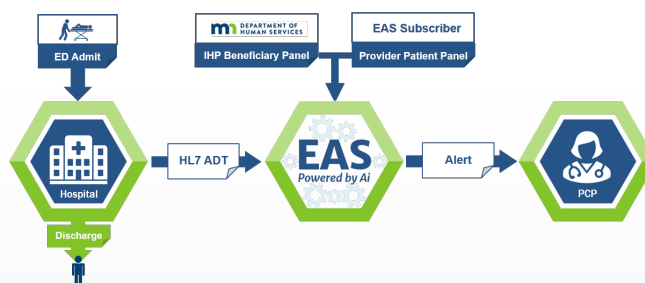


Frequently Asked Questions On Encounter Alert Service (EAS)

Q HOW DOES EAS WORK?

A EAS receives messages from treatment facilities in Minnesota and compares them to patient lists provided by subscribers. When one of the listed patients has an encounter at a participating facility, subscribers receive an alert containing details about that patient's encounter.



Q HOW ARE FACILITIES CONNECTED?

A Audacious Inquiry provides a fully hosted EAS solution inclusive of the EAS® Core Engine, the Master Patient Index (MPI) and Interface Engine. In partnership with DHS, Ai aims to connect all hospitals in MN, with a focus on IHPs. Ai will establish admit, discharge, and transfer (ADT) message connectivity with MN hospitals and work to load a beneficiary member panel on a monthly basis. Ai will provide ADT sources with specifications for ADT data elements and event types for inclusion in outbound ADT feeds, in alignment with DHS' requirements.

Q HOW DO I RECEIVE NOTIFICATIONS?

A Notifications are delivered to subscribers via a number of secure methods: SFTP sites, Direct Messaging, and PROMPT. Subscribers are able to choose the method or combination of methods that fit best into their clinical workflows.

Q HOW DOES THE SYSTEM HANDLE PATIENT CONSENT?

A Organizations need authorization before including an individual on their patient panel for EAS. Patient authorization does not need to reference EAS specifically. Organizations using EAS are not mandated to use a particular authorization form. DHS obtains authorization from program participants for information to be shared with their providers to help coordinate care received under Medical Assistance. EAS only sends an alert when consent has been provided by the patient both at the payer/provider level (to include them in their panel) and at the hospital level (to send the ADT message to EAS). If an alert is received by the MN EAS for a person that cannot be matched to a panel, the alert is neither sent nor retained.

Q IS THERE A COST FOR EAS?

A At this time, DHS is covering costs for the implementation of MN EAS and for onboarding Medical Assistance providers to the service.

Q WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

A Any health care provider (as well as other HIEs/HIOs acting as intermediaries on behalf of providers) serving MA beneficiaries in MN can sign up to participate in the service.

Q WHY IS DHS SPONSORING THE MN EAS?

A DHS received stakeholder input that action was needed to address gaps in information exchange for providers who are part of accountable care arrangements working to provide high quality care to patients on Medical Assistance. The implementation of MN EAS takes tangible steps to advance the Minnesota E-Health Vision of connecting networks and enabling the consistent exchange of a critical care transaction. DHS is acting to address this need for Medicaid providers by targeting onboarding IHP providers and will continue implementation to other Medicaid providers over the next couple of years.

Q HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR EAS?

A Please contact Nick Regier nregier@ainq.com or Jackie Sias at Jackie.Sias@state.mn.us for more information.