



3M™ Audit Expert System

- Identifies compliance issues before claims are submitted by reviewing 100 percent of the records at the point of coding
- Helps decrease compliance risk and improve cash flow by reducing rework, rejected bills and lost reimbursement
- Helps improve reliability and accuracy of coded data, facilitates coding audits and compliance reporting, and saves an audit trail
- Enables tracking and trending of Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) issues, enhancing the RAC team's workflow

Compliance challenges

Delivering accurate, complete, and compliant coding is a huge responsibility for HIM departments as they try to keep up with changes to billing rules and coding guidelines and avoid delays in billing. How would you answer these questions?

Are you ready for Recovery Audit Contractors (RACs) and other audits of your coded data?

Are you confident that random audits identify all potential compliance issues?

Do you believe you are covering all the bases by concentrating only on records that contain certain “high-profile” or “high-risk” DRGs?

Can you also benchmark your facility against national norms for high-risk DRGs?

Catch coding errors before they become a problem

With the 3M Audit Expert System, detection occurs at the absolute best time—as the record is being coded and before it is released for billing. This concurrent process promotes accurate coding, which helps support data integrity and accurate reimbursement, and also helps reduce costly post-discharge coding audits and reviews. By using the software, coders can not only help reduce billing delays, but also receive timely and consistent feedback that helps them continually improve their coding skills.

The 3M Audit Expert System also provides retrospective audit capabilities to facilitate independent review by supervisor, department head, or compliance auditor. All levels of review are documented, stored, and available for reporting.

Recovery Audit Contractors (RACs) and RAC management

The 3M Audit Expert System is a core part of the 3M™ RAC Ready Program, a powerful combination of software and consulting services that can help reduce the risk exposure to audits and facilitate rapid, accurate responses and effective appeals.

The RAC Management Tool within 3M Audit Expert helps hospitals to respond quickly to RAC requests and defend claims through the appeals process by allowing providers to:

- Log record requests and manage timelines
- Streamline workflow by creating worklists
- Improve communication among RAC team members
- Store and report types of issues for re-opening claims, amount of takebacks, and overall outcomes
- Proactively identify potential RAC issues and areas of risk with robust reports
- Aggregate RAC experience data on a quarterly basis for easy submission to the American Hospital Association's RACTrac Survey



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Solution: Software and consulting services

3M Health Information Systems has combined the 3M Audit Expert System with 3M Consulting Services to address key areas of the coding compliance process with a flexible approach based on your specific needs. With periodic assessment and analysis of your coding output, 3M consultants can help you fine-tune the 3M Audit Expert System and your coding compliance processes to help reduce compliance risk exposure, and capture lost reimbursement.

Edit messages

The 3M Audit Expert System creates a database that stores the edits that were triggered for all the screened records. Its features include:

- Edit types
 - **Clinical edits** evaluate consistency with coding guidelines
 - **Resource edits** evaluate length of stay and related charges
 - **Sequencing edits** compare coding sequence to coding rules
 - **User-defined edits** are your edits based on facility or payer issues
- Edit delivery
 - **Interactive edits** guide the coder at the point of coding
 - **Background edits** run without interrupting coders and can be reviewed pre-bill
 - **User-definable edits** are customized to your specific facility needs
 - **Batch edits** run a past population of records against the edit engine (3M Audit Expert HRM only)

You can analyze the types of edits that occur, and more frequently and proactively address problems. Since the system helps quantify the extent of the problem with a compliance ranking, you can also prioritize corrective actions based on their impact.

Coding rules and guidelines

The 3M Audit Expert System encompasses coding rules and guidelines from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), American Hospital Association (AHA), American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA), and the American Medical Association (AMA). 3M Audit

Expert aggregates data about your RAC experience for easy submission to the AHA's RACTrac Survey. The system also supports coder training efforts and process improvement within the medical records department and facilitates audits that identify when additional coder education is required.

Compare your facility to national norms

The 3M Audit Expert System shows you where your organization ranks against CMS's national MEDPAR data. The Medicare Benchmark Comparison capability lets your organization compare its coding results against nationwide published CMS benchmarks. The system can also run comparisons against your own records, track improvements, and compare your organization with other facilities.

Report examples

- Differences in average CMS weight by coder
- Top DRG by compliance rank
- Estimated financial impact of DRG changes
- MEDPAR reports
- DRG benchmark comparisons
- RAC reports

Code audit capability

The 3M Audit Expert System allows auditors (internal or external) to verify if the original coding on the record is correct and complete pre- or post-billing. They can also re-code the record with the 3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System, which opens within the chapter to make any changes or modifications, saves the changes, and creates an audit trail. A feedback loop for coder education is created to correct any problematic patterns or trends identified that affect claims or billing practices.

Configuration

The 3M Audit Expert System runs on Microsoft Windows® and MS SQL. For details about the operating environment, hardware requirements, and interface options, please refer to the 3M Audit Expert System Configuration Sheet.

Call today

For more information on how 3M solutions can assist your organization, contact your 3M sales representative, call us toll-free at **800-367-2447**, or visit us online at **www.3Mhis.com**.



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