



## CIRCULAR

Reference: ASR Utilisation Specification  
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### **CIRCULAR 42 OF 2014: DRAFT ANNUAL STATUTORY RETURNS UTILISATION SPECIFICATION DOCUMENTS**

Historically the healthcare utilisation measures in the Annual Statutory Returns (ASR) were inadequately defined and open to differing interpretation, which lead to inconsistencies in the approaches adopted by medical schemes and their administrators when these returns were populated. The current ASR submission process also placed a burden on schemes as the data required for submission had to be manually captured, which lead to typing errors and poor quality data being submitted.

The CMS has initiated a project to redesign and enhance the system it uses to collect the healthcare utilisation data with the purpose of improving the quality of data submitted by medical schemes as well as lessen the burden on schemes due to the manual submission process that the current system requires.

The project consists of two distinct parts; 1.) the process of producing a specification document setting out clear definitions for all the data elements for the healthcare utilisation (parts 2.6 to 3.9) of the ASR system; 2.) a redesign of the infrastructure used for submitting the data to CMS (parts 2.1 to 3.9).

The redesign of the infrastructure of the submission system is being conducted by the CMS ICT unit to ensure that the submission of healthcare utilisation data is a purely electronic process thereby eliminating the manual data capturing process. This interactive process between selected schemes, administrators and the CMS ICT unit is underway and will be communicated shortly.

All healthcare utilisation variables that are currently collected through parts 2.6 to 3.9 of the ASR system will be clearly defined. An approach similar to the SRM Entry and Verification will be adopted. This will ensure that schemes and administrators across the industry will have the same understanding of data requirements from CMS.

The CMS has employed the services of Insight Actuaries and Consultants (previously The Health Monitor Company) to assist in producing the data specification document that sets out all the utilisation variable definitions.

The draft specification document has been published on the CMS website and you are hereby kindly requested to submit your comments regarding the draft specification document by **20 October 2014**.  
[http://www.medicalschemes.com/files/ITAP%20Documents/CMSTechSpecV1\\_4.pdf](http://www.medicalschemes.com/files/ITAP%20Documents/CMSTechSpecV1_4.pdf)



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