Revised MHDO Assigned Member Number Approach

# Overview

The current MHDO Assigned Member Number assignment method constructs the Member Number from either the Subscriber SSN or the Contract Number, along with the Member DOB and gender. The preference is to use the Subscriber SSN rather than the Contract Number so that the resulting Member Number can be used to link individuals between payers. Sometimes, however, the Subscriber SSN is not available, so the Contract Number is used.

Recently, MHDO has become aware of some issues with this approach. There are some instances when neither the Subscriber SSN nor the Contract Number are provided on the claim record. This makes it impossible to assign a Member Number using the current methodology. Additionally, if a Member Number is constructed using the Contract Number, multiple Member Numbers may be generated for the same individual. Another issue is that a payer that didn’t previously supply Subscriber SSN may begin doing so. Under the existing methodology, a new Member Number will be calculated that has no relationship to the old one, making it difficult for data users to track individuals across time.

# Proposed New Scheme

In order to improve the ability to link individuals between payers and across time, we are proposing the following Member Number creation scheme:

When data are available, the system will calculate multiple Member Numbers for each record. These will be:

* MemberNum\_SUBSSN: This will be created from the Subscriber SSN, the Member DOB and the Member Gender
* MemberNum\_Contract: This will be created from the Contract Number, the Member DOB, and the Member Gender
* MemberNum\_MEMSSN: This will be created from the Member SSN, the Member DOB, and the Member Gender

When the MemberNum\_SUBSSN is available, it will be considered the canonical Member Number and will be used as the release Member Number. If it is not available, the other Member Numbers will be used as lookup keys to attempt to find the MemberNum\_SUBSSN that is associated with a given Member Number\_Contract or MemberNum\_MEMSSN (search will be performed in the order specified). If found, the associated MemberNum\_SUBSSN will be used as the release Member Number. If no match is found, one of the other Member Numbers would then be used as the release Member Number. The only circumstance where no release Member Number would be provided would be when there was no Subscriber SSN, Contract Number, Member SSN, Member DOB, or Member Gender available.