

Auditing for Compliance Acronyms and Terms List

ADE	Adverse Drug Events
AHIMA	American Health Information Management Association
AI	Administrative Investigation
ALJ	Administrative Law Judge
AMA	American Medical Association
AQL	Acceptable Quality Level
AR	Accounts Receivable
ARRA	American Recovery & Reinvestment Act
ASQ	American Society for Quality
Base	A quantity one calculates a percent "of".
Benchmarking	The means of comparing operations with the performance of others.
Block Selection	Block selection is performed by applying audit procedures to items, which occurred in the same "block" of time or sequence of accounts.
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
Census or "Universe"	An accounting of the complete population.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CERT	Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (program)
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
CHA	Certified Healthcare Auditor
CIA	Corporate Integrity Agreement
CMIP	Comprehensive Medicaid Integrity Plan
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. This department used to be called "HCFA" - health care financing administration. This name change occurred September 24, 2001 - Click Here for the Transmittal AB-01-133.
Coefficient of Variation	A measure of relative variability for a data set. Found by dividing the standard deviation by the mean and multiplying by 100.
Confidence Level	The degree to which we are justified in believing that the estimate based on a sample, drawn at random, will fall within a specified range. Usually expressed as a percentage.
COO	Chief Operating Officer
Correlation Coefficient	Shows the strength and direction of correlation or relationship between two or more groups of data.
COv	Coefficient of Variation
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology
CQI	Continuous Quality Improvement
Data	The facts and figures that are collected.
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
DME	Durable Medical Equipment
DOD	Department of Defense
DOJ	Department of Justice

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DRA	Deficit Reduction Act
DRG	Diagnosis-Related Group
E&M	Evaluation and Management (services)
EHR	Electronic Health Records
EMR	Electronic Medical Records
EOB	Explanation of Benefits
FCA	False Claims Act
FERA	Fraud Enforcement Recovery Act
FI	Fiscal Intermediary
FMEA	Failure Mode and Effects Analysis
Haphazard Selection	In this method, the auditor selects the sample items without intentional bias to include or exclude certain items in the population.
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration, a term used for what is now called the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or CMS. This is an agency of the US Dept of HHS that administers Medicare, the federal part of Medicaid and oversees Medicare's health financing; HCFA/CMS establishes standards for medical providers that require compliance to meet certification requirements. This name change occurred September 24, 2001 -Click Here for the Transmittal AB-01-133.
HCPCS	Health Care Procedural Coding System
HEAT	Health Care Fraud Prevention & Enforcement Action Team
HFMEA	Healthcare Failure Mode & Effects Analysis
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act
JCAHO	Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospital Organizations
Judgment Sample Selection	A judgment sample is one which was selected under the control or influence of factors other than chance.
LCD	Local Coverage Determinations
LDRSHIP	Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, Personal Courage
MAC	Medicare Administrative Contractor
Mean	The average value. It is the sum of all the values, divided by the number of values
Median	The value that divides a series of ordered observations so that the number of items above it is equal to the number below it.
MIG	Medicaid Integrity Group
MIP	Medicaid Integrity Program
Mode	The most frequently occurring value.
MUE	Medically Unlikely Edits
NCCI	National Correct Coding Initiatives
NCD	National Coverage Determinations

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NCPS	National Center for Patient Safety
NPSF	National Patient Safety Foundation
OIG	Office of Inspector General
PBR	Percentage (portion), Base, Rate
PERC	Planning Execution Reporting Corrective Action
Percent	Literally means “out of 100” and it is abbreviated with the symbol “%”. 100% is one whole.
Percentage	A way of expressing parts of a whole. It is used most often when discussing real-world quantities. The percentage is a portion of the base (or whole).
Population	The entire group under study as specified by the objectives of the project.
Precision	The range within which the estimate of the population characteristics will fall at the stipulated confidence level. Usually expressed as a plus or minus percentage.
Probability or “p” value	Likelihood of an observed result arising by chance, usually used to represent percentages. The lower the p value, the smaller the percentage, the greater the significance and the less likely that something happened just because of chance.
PSI	Patient Safety Indicators
Qualitative Data	Pertains to or concerns quality, without regard to quantity, and thus by its nature is more difficult to measure
Quantitative Data	Susceptible to measurement and lends itself to be the data of choice in the evaluation of a process.
RAC	Recovery Audit Contractors
Range	The difference between the largest and smallest values.
RATS	Regional Advanced Techniques Staff (RAT-STATS)
RCA	Root Cause Analysis
RVU	Relative Value Units
SAC	Safety Assessment Code
SAM	System for Award Management. The General Services Administration's (GSA) administers SAM, which contains debarment actions taken by various Federal agencies, including exclusion actions taken by OIG. The LEIE contains only the exclusion actions taken by OIG.
Sample	A subset of the population that should represent the entire group.
Sampling Error	Any error in a survey that occurs because a sample is used.
SDP	Self-Disclosure Protocol
Simple Random Sampling	This method uses sampling without replacement; that is, once an item has been selected for testing it is removed from the population and is not subject to re-selection.
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility

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SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
Standard Deviation	The numerical value that describes the spreading tendency, or variability, of the data. A large standard deviation shows greater variability of the data than does a small standard deviation
Stratified (Cluster) Sampling	This method provides for the selection of sample items by breaking the population down into stratas, or clusters. Each strata is then treated separately.
Systematic (Interval) Sampling	This method provides for the selection of sample items in such a way that there is a uniform interval between each sample item.
TARP	Troubled Asset Relief Program
VA	Veterans Administration
VANCPs	Veterans Administration National Center for Patient Safety
ZPIC	Zone Program Integrity Contractor