
2

OVERVIEW

INTRODUCING THE SWING BED-MDS SYSTEM.....	2
WHAT HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE IS REQUIRED	3
WHAT TRAINING IS RECOMMENDED	4

INTRODUCING THE SWING BED-MDS SYSTEM

The Swing Bed MDS System is part of the overall National Automation Project. The purpose of this project is to provide computerized storage, access, and analysis of the SB-MDS data on patients in hospitals across the United States. The Swing Bed MDS System is intended to create a standard, nationwide system for connecting hospitals to the National Assessment Collection Database for the purpose of electronic interchange of data, reports, and other information. The Swing Bed MDS System provides the following functions:

- Receipt of SB-MDS records from hospitals to the National Assessment Collection Database.
- Authentication and validation of SB-MDS records received from hospitals.
- Feedback to hospitals indicating acknowledgment of the transmission of the data and specifying the status of record validation.
- Storage of SB-MDS records in the National Assessment Collection Database.

The system was designed to also serve as a means of communicating information (e.g., reports, documents, and notices) with hospitals. Figure 2-1 provides an overview of the Swing Bed MDS System architecture and illustrates the communication components and database repository. Figure 2-1 also serves to illustrate the flow of Swing Bed MDS data submissions.

⇒ *The national server is located at the QIES Technical Support Office (QTSO) located at the Iowa Foundation for Medical Care. (IFMC)*

⇒ *Data specifications current version is 1.00 and is located at the CMS website.*

At each hospital, the user will utilize the Swing Bed MDS System to electronically send SB-MDS data records to the National Assessment Collection Database. These data records are transmitted via a modem and received at the national server where the file is validated to ensure some basic elements conform to the requirements (such as proper format and hospital information) while the hospital remains on-line. If the submission passes the initial validation check, then each record is checked for errors or exceptions to the data specifications and a Final Validation Report is generated. To access the Final Validation Report, refer to page 3-16. Section 3 describes both the Initial Feedback and Final Validation Reports and how to interpret the various fields in both.

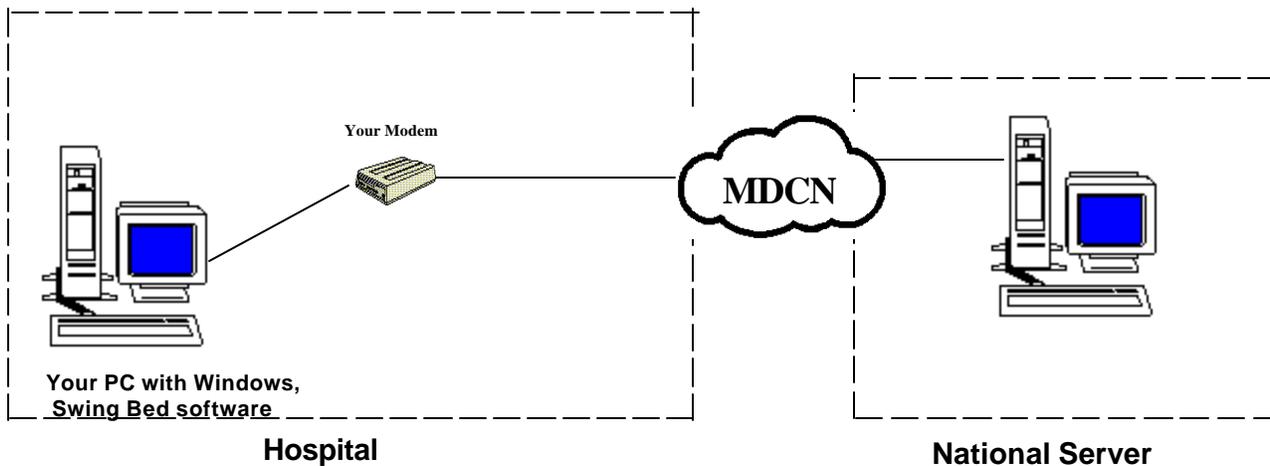


Figure 2-1. Overview of the Swing Bed MDS System Architecture

WHAT HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE IS REQUIRED

⇒ *Your hospital must be using software capable of encoding Swing Bed MDS records and exporting data files in accordance with Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) standard data record layout specifications for version 1.00 of the SB-MDS (03/01/02).*

Table 2-1 provides a checklist for the minimum hardware and software configurations required to transmit Swing Bed MDS records to the National Assessment Collection Database using the Swing Bed MDS System. You should be able to obtain any of the required hardware and software, or information on how to order it, from most computer stores.

EQUIPMENT				
REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDOWS 95	REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDOWS 98	REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDOWS NT	REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDOWS 2000	REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDOWS XP
Pentium System (minimum) with a CD ROM Drive	Pentium System (minimum) with a CD ROM Drive	Pentium System (minimum) with a CD ROM Drive	133 MHz or faster Pentium - compatible CPU (minimum) with a CD ROM Drive	PC with 300 megahertz or higher processor clock speed recommended; 233 MHz minimum required (single or dual processor system with a CD-ROM or DVD drive)
16 megs of RAM (minimum)	32 megs of RAM (minimum)	32 megs of RAM (minimum)	64 megs of RAM (minimum)	128 megabytes (MB) of RAM or higher recommended
Netscape Navigator 4.08 128-bit SSL encryption IE (only version 5.5 SP1)	Netscape Navigator 4.08 128-bit SSL encryption IE (only version 5.5 SP1)	Netscape Navigator 4.08 128-bit SSL encryption IE (only version 5.5 SP1)	Netscape Navigator 4.08 128-bit SSL encryption IE (only version 5.5 SP1)	Netscape Navigator 4.08 128-bit SSL encryption IE (only version 5.5 SP1)

Table 2-2. Hardware/Software Requirements

⇒ *At hospitals where a computer network is in use, the installation and setup of the Swing Bed MDS System should be coordinated with the assistance of a network administrator and appropriate vendors, as needed.*

⇒ *Having a single telephone line exclusively dedicated to the Swing-Bed MDS System is a safe guard against interruptions or breaks in your connection to the National server.*

Should you have difficulty in verifying your existing system hardware and software configuration, contact your hospital computer support personnel, the specific hardware and software vendors, or the vendor who has provided you with Swing Bed MDS data encoding software, as appropriate.

WHAT TRAINING IS RECOMMENDED

Whether formal or informal, training in the software applications associated with the Swing Bed MDS System would be helpful. It is recommended that you obtain training in Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000, Windows NT, Windows XP. Training in these applications can usually be obtained from the software vendor, a local computer store, college or university. If you have purchased your Swing Bed MDS software from a vendor, they may provide training. A basic level of familiarity with these software applications, in addition to the operation of your PC and modem will greatly facilitate the use of the Swing Bed MDS System.

⇒ *You should receive training from your Swing Bed MDS encoding software vendor in performing data extracts and preparing files for submission prior to using the Swing Bed MDS System.*

If manuals or guides did not come with the software on your computer, you may check with your local computer store for recommended reference guides. All Browsers and Windows applications have online help available to assist you.

This will help to ensure that your submissions are in the correct format, contain the correct information, and will be accepted into the Swing Bed MDS system.