

The Road Ahead

Healthcare Almanac – HA is a software product featuring a total solution to using information in the CMS Medicare Cost Reports. The HA software product is currently an “embeddable” Website and an installable Desktop product. The embeddable feature means the Website product can be embedded into your company website. The website appears to be part of your website to your clients. Healthcare Almanac is being actively developed as an evolving CMS Medicare Cost Report solution. Listed below are topics that describe “The Road Ahead” for Healthcare Almanac.

Microsoft Power BI

Microsoft has created a reporting application that can use tables/data from many sources. Power BI will be used to create reports, graphs and dashboards of financial and analytical information from the HA Databases. Special tables or models will be developed to simplify the use of Power BI. Microsoft charges \$10.00 per month per user to share information with other Power BI users. This can be a problem but the Power BI features bring state of the art reporting to the Website and Desktop products.

HA Database Upgrades

The HA Database is constantly being upgraded with new information. The next addition is going to be expanding the CBSA codes (Metropolitan and Micropolitan) from the US Commerce department. Another addition is the calculation of Adjusted Discharges to better calculate per Discharge cost. These will include Casemix adjustment. A number of the current KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) will be upgraded with these calculations.

Microsoft .Net and Net Core

In 2016, Microsoft released Net Core 1.0 and the current release is version 3.1. Version 3.1 is a feature complete product. The Website is currently based on Net Core 2.2. The Website is being upgraded to Net Core 3.1 by November 2020. Microsoft is renaming Net Core 3.1 to Net 5 in November 2020. The Website will be upgraded to Net 5 in early 2021. For the Website, “The Road Ahead” is for the Website to use current Microsoft technologies. The new Net Core and Net 5 are outstanding products from Microsoft.

HA Desktop Conversion to Net 5

The HA Desktop is currently developed in Net 4.6. Microsoft has developed a new technology named Blazor to provide “amazing website performance”. In addition, a type of “installable website” called a “Progressive Web Application” is also possible. This technology will be released with the Net 5 release in November 2020. The Road Ahead is to convert the HA Desktop to a Progressive Web Application.

Version – June 27, 2020