

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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CENTER FOR DRUG AND HEALTH PLAN CHOICE

TO: Part D Sponsors

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SUBJECT: New Reports Available on Patient Safety Analysis Website

DATE: July 21, 2009

New reports will be available on the Patient Safety Analysis website by the end of July and August of 2009. CMS, through its contractor, Acumen, LLC, developed a Patient Safety Analysis website and posts monthly contract-level patient safety reports with expanded analyses and information related to the patient safety Part D Plan Rating measures. The measures in the reports allow Part D sponsors to compare their performance to overall averages and monitor their progress in improving the Part D Plan Rating measures for patient safety. The website also facilitates communications between CMS, Part D sponsors, and Acumen, LLC.

Background

CMS has developed performance and quality measures to provide Medicare beneficiaries with the data necessary to make informed decisions about their health care. The goal of these Part D measures is to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries receive the best health care and prescription drug coverage available. Measures are published as part of Part D Plan Ratings each Fall on the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (MPDPF). Beginning in November 2008, CMS began producing patient safety Part D Plan Rating measures as part of this effort.

Currently, there is one patient safety Part D Plan Rating on the MPDPF on the use of High Risk Medications (HRMs). The patient safety Plan Ratings will be expanded in October 2009 for the 2010 open enrollment period to include a Diabetes Treatment measure. In addition, CMS will report rates on two additional measures on a newly created information page on the CMS website (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov>) for Drug-Drug Interactions (DDI) and Diabetes Medication Dosing (DMD). All of the measures are calculated with Medicare Part D prescription drug event (PDE) data.

New Patient Safety Analysis Reports

The following reports will be available on the Patient Safety Analysis website:

- High Risk Medication (HRM) Report
- Diabetes Treatment Report (**NEW** July 2009)
- Drug-Drug Interaction Report (**NEW** August 2009)

- Diabetes Medication Dosing (DMD) Report (**NEW** August 2009)

These reports are produced for each Part D contract. The measures in these reports were calculated with complete 2008 PDE data. The 2008 report contains the rate that corresponds to the patient safety Part D Plan Ratings and the information measures for the 2010 open enrollment period. These ratings will be displayed on the MPDPF beginning October 2009.

User guides to assist contracts with understanding their Patient Safety Reports and how the measures are calculated are downloadable from the Patient Safety Analysis Website.

Access to the Patient Safety Analysis Website

In order to gain access to the Patient Safety Analysis website, sponsors should complete the following steps.

1. CMS' contractor, Acumen, LLC, currently manages multiple websites for Medicare Part D contracts, including this Patient Safety Analysis website. In accordance with Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) regulations, only the Medicare Compliance Officer is authorized to give access to these websites for each contract. To streamline this process, Acumen has developed the User Security website – a web tool that allows Medicare Compliance Officers to manage their users on the Part D websites. The current Medicare Compliance Officer for your organization should already have access to the User Security website through existing work with Acumen. If you have any questions, please contact Acumen at PartD@AcumenLLC.com or (650) 558-8006.
2. To authorize users for the Patient Safety Analysis website, the Medicare Compliance Officer must log onto the User Security website (https://partd.programinfo.us/User_Security) to:
 - Submit an Available User Request Form for each user.
 - Authorize access permissions for each user.
 - For security purposes, each contract is allowed up to 5 users.
3. Acumen will send authorized Patient Safety Analysis website users:
 - An email with the website user guide
 - A letter with login credentials via USPS

Any general questions about CMS policies regarding Part D measures should be sent via email to PartDMetrics@cms.hhs.gov. If you need help accessing the patient safety reports or have questions about their content, please contact the Acumen, LLC help desk at PatientSafety@AcumenLLC.com or by phone at (650) 558-8006.