

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

DATE: May 12, 2009

TO: Medicare Advantage Organizations and 1876 Cost Plans

FROM: Cynthia G. Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

SUBJECT: Update to the Technical Specifications for Part C Medicare Advantage and 1876 Cost Plan Reporting

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has received a large number of questions regarding the CY 2009 Part C Reporting Requirements. To address each question in a way that all Part C sponsors can benefit from the response, CMS is pleased to release an update to the Part C Reporting Requirements Technical Specifications. This update seeks only to provide clarifying information and in no way changes the actual reporting requirements as they were approved under the OMB PRA process. This document will be posted on the external CMS website (at the following link: www.cms.hhs.gov/HealthPlansGenInfo/16_ReportingRequirements.asp) and on the HPMS Plan Reporting site.

This update to the Part C Reporting Requirements Technical Specifications primarily contains clarifying information for the three reporting sections that are due on May 31, 2009, specifically Grievances, Organization Determinations/Reconsiderations, and Plan Oversight of Agents. It is our intention to provide future updates to these specifications in advance of when each reporting element is due for the first time in order to provide clarification on those reporting elements.

Comments or questions on all Part C Reporting Requirements should continue to be sent via email to partcplanreporting@cms.hhs.gov and include the title of the specific element to which your question applies in the subject line. Please be aware that due to the volume of questions this mailbox receives, individual responses to questions may not be possible. Questioners should look to the next release of the Part C Reporting Requirements Technical Specifications to provide the requested clarifying information.