

Special Open Door Forum: Home Health Pay for Performance Demonstration

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM, Eastern Standard Time (EST)

(Conference Call Only)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will hold a Special Open Door Forum (ODF) to give an overview of the Home Health Pay for Performance Demonstration which is currently accepting enrollments through November, 30, 2007. The primary audience for this call are Medicare certified home health agencies (HHAs) and associations from the states that have been selected to participate in this demonstration; Connecticut, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Illinois and California.

Under the demonstration, HHAs will be eligible to receive incentive payments if their quality improvement efforts result in the highest performance levels or significant quality improvements as determined by Outcome-Based Quality Improvement (OBQI) measures. The availability of incentive payments will depend on whether or not the demonstration results in improvements in the quality of care and the actual savings to the Medicare program overall - not just for home health services provided to the patients served under the demonstration.

During the enrollment period, HHAs that agree to participate will be randomly assigned to either a study group or a control group. The actual implementation phase of the demonstration is January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009. Those agencies assigned to the study group will have their patients' outcomes monitored during this period. Agencies with the highest level of quality among participants in their states, or with the greatest improvement relative to the previous year, will be eligible for incentive payments.

During this Forum, CMS will explain in greater detail: (1) an overview of the final demonstration design, (2) define those eligible for participation and the application process, and (3) explain the next steps for HHAs interested in participating in the demonstration. A question and answer session will follow the presentation but due to the limited time available, questions from those eligible to participate will be answered first. You may obtain a copy of the slides for this Special Open Door and additional information at www.hhp4p.info

We look forward to your participation.

Open Door Forum Participation Instructions:

To participate in this special forum, please register on the CMS website at <http://registration.intercall.com/go/cms2>. Upon registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing further participation information. The deadline for registration is **2:00 PM EST, November 9, 2007**. Note: Capacity is limited so register early. Registering via the web will ensure we can accommodate as many participants as possible.

An audio recording of this special forum will be posted to the Special Open Door Forum website at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/OpenDoorForums/05_ODF_SpecialODF.asp and will be accessible for downloading beginning **November 19, 2007**.

For automatic emails of Open Door Forum schedule updates (E-Mailing list subscriptions) and to view Frequently Asked Questions please visit our website at: www.cms.hhs.gov/opendoorforum/

Thank you for your interest in CMS Open Door Forums.