



CMS Snapshot

October 6-13, 2022

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, October 6 through 2pm Thursday, October 13, 2022

News Releases

*October 6- [CMS Releases 2023 Medicare Advantage and Part D Star Ratings to Help People with Medicare Compare Plans](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2023 Star Ratings for Medicare Advantage (Medicare Part C) and Medicare Part D prescription drug plans to help people with Medicare compare plans ahead of Medicare Open Enrollment, which kicks off on October 15. Plans are rated on a one-to-five scale, with one star representing poor performance and five stars representing excellent performance. Star Ratings are released annually and reflect the experiences of people enrolled in Medicare Advantage and Part D prescription drug plans. The Star Ratings system supports CMS' efforts to empower people to make health care decisions that are best for them.

*October 6- [11 Operation Fly Formula Flights Completed by September 29](#). *By the end of September, Operation Fly Formula will have transported more than 94 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents to the U.S.* There were 11 Operation Fly Formula flights completed through the month of September importing more than 13.7 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents of infant formula to the United States. By September 29, Operation Fly Formula completed 74 flights and imported more than 97.9 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents of infant formula.

*October 7- [New HHS Report: COVID-19 Vaccinations in 2021 Linked to More than 650,000 Fewer COVID-19 Hospitalizations and Over 300,000 Fewer Deaths Among Medicare Beneficiaries, Underscoring Importance of Getting Updated COVID-19 Vaccines This Fall](#). A new report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shows that the Biden Administration's historic vaccination program, which has gotten over 90 percent of seniors fully vaccinated and over 70 percent of seniors a booster shot, is linked to more than 650,000 fewer COVID-19 hospitalizations and more than 300,000 fewer deaths among seniors and other Americans enrolled in Medicare. The study, which was conducted by researchers with HHS's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), underscores the importance of Americans – particularly seniors and others at high-risk of serious outcomes – getting an updated COVID-19 vaccine this fall.

*October 11- [Statement by HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra on Administration Action to Resolve “Family Glitch” and Lower Health Care Costs](#). *Final rule issued today is the most significant administrative action to implement the Affordable Care Act since the law was enacted.* Today, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra issued the following statement on the Biden-Harris Administration's final rule to strengthen implementation of the Affordable Care Act [by fixing the “family glitch,”](#) a step that will help about 1 million Americans either gain coverage or see their coverage become more affordable.

*October 11- [Joint Statement by Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra](#). Announcement of Ambassador Pamela K. Hamamoto as U.S. Negotiator for the Pandemic Accord. Among its many impacts, the COVID-19 pandemic reinforced a crucial truth about threats to global health – they require rapid, effective, and sustained international cooperation. It is in that context that we are pleased to announce that Ambassador Pamela K. Hamamoto has been selected to be lead U.S. Pandemic Negotiator on the proposed accord on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response currently being discussed at the World Health Organization.

Fact Sheets

*October 6- [2023 Medicare Advantage and Part D Star Ratings](#). *Note: The information included in this Fact Sheet is based on the 2023 Star Ratings published on the Medicare Plan Finder on October 6, 2022. For details on the Medicare Advantage (MA) and Part D Star Ratings, please refer to the 2023 Part C & D Star Ratings Technical Notes available at <http://go.cms.gov/partcanddstarratings>.* The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) publishes the Medicare Advantage (Medicare Part C) and Medicare Part D Star Ratings each year to measure the quality of health and drug services received by consumers enrolled in Medicare Advantage (MA) and Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs or Part D plans). The Star Ratings system helps Medicare consumers compare the quality of Medicare health and drug plans being offered so they are empowered to make the best health care decisions for them. An important component of this effort is to provide Medicare consumers and their caregivers with meaningful information about quality alongside information about benefits and costs to assist them in being informed and active health care consumers.

For more information, please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov