



CENTER FOR MEDICARE

DATE: August 4, 2026

TO: All Medicare Advantage Organizations, Prescription Drug Plans, and Section 1876 Cost Plans

FROM: Vanessa S. Duran
Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

SUBJECT: First Plan Preview of 2027 Medicare Parts C and D Star Ratings Data

The purpose of this memo is to inform Part C and D sponsors that they can preview their Star Ratings data in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS) prior to display on the Medicare Plan Finder (MPF). The first plan preview will be held from August 5-11, 2026.

During this first plan preview, CMS expects Part C and D sponsors to closely review the methodology and their posted data for each measure. Sponsors should immediately alert CMS of any suspected data issues or errors in order to allow sufficient time to investigate and process any necessary data corrections.

Star Ratings assignments will not be available for the first plan preview. A second plan preview will be conducted in September and will include any revisions made as a result of the first plan preview; in addition, preliminary Star Ratings for each measure, domain, summary score, and overall score will be displayed. Please note that any scaled reductions for the Part C appeals measures and disaster adjustments will be incorporated into the Star Ratings shown in the second plan preview. Medicare beneficiaries will be able to view the final Star Ratings via the MPF on www.medicare.gov in October. Data shared prior to the release of the final Star Ratings in October are preliminary and subject to change.

Instructions for Accessing Preview Data:

- To access the Part C and D Star Ratings preview in HPMS, select: “Quality and Performance,” then “Performance Metrics,” then “Reports,” “Star Ratings and Display Measures,” then “Star Ratings,” and then make sure 2027 is selected for the report period.
- The draft 2027 Part C & D Star Ratings Technical Notes are available via the “Download” link, then “Technical Notes” within the Star Ratings module.

Please email comments or questions to the following mailbox:

PartCandDStarRatings@cms.hhs.gov. Also, copy the CallCenterMonitoring@cms.hhs.gov mailbox for call center monitoring questions.

Please include “Plan Preview #1” and a Contract ID in the subject line. If you are emailing about multiple contracts with similar issues, please group your questions into a limited number of emails. Please send a separate email for each data source (e.g., CAHPS, HEDIS, HOS, Part C appeals, call center, etc.). Do not send separate emails for individual measures if they use the same data source; instead, group those measures into one email.

Do not submit emails requiring CMS to log in to a website to access the questions. If you need to share personally identifiable information with us, please contact us via email to discuss a safe way to transfer the data.

Comments and questions will be addressed on a rolling basis and must be received **no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific time on August 11, 2026.**

Thank you for your continued commitment to ensure the success of the Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug programs.