

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending November 14, 2008

Title: PDP Contracts that are Non-Renewing or Undergoing a Service Area Reduction (SAR) for 2009

Date: 11/10/08

Summary: The purpose of this communication is to inform you that there are several Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) sponsors that have a contract that is non-renewing or undergoing a Service Area Reduction (SAR) effective January 2009. All beneficiaries who will need to select a new plan for 2009 as a result of these changes were notified with a personalized letter which was sent either by the sponsor (voluntary situations) or CMS (involuntary situations) in early October. These beneficiaries will have a special election period (SEP) to elect a new plan beginning October 1, 2008, and lasting through January 31, 2009.

Title: Guidance for marketing requirements re: unsolicited contacts, employer/union group plans, scope of appointments, and other marketing provisions

Date: 11/10/08

Summary: On September 15, 2008, and October 17, 2008, we released guidance to help the industry implement the new Medicare regulations, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services 4131-F and Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services 4138-IFC.

Title: CLARIFICATION of the 2010 Notice of Intent to Apply

Date: 11/10/08

Summary: The memorandum dated October 10, 2008 and entitled, *Posting of the 2010 Notice of Intent to Apply to Expand Service Area or Become a New Part C Medicare Advantage, Part D Prescription Drug Benefit and Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan (Direct Contract or "800 Series")* Sponsor: Deadline November 18, 2008, contained an error in question 5 of the attachment.

Title: Release of Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services 4138-IFC2 and Clarification of Guidance on Agent/Broker Compensation

Date: 11/10/08

Summary: This interim final rule with comment period (IFC) revises the regulations governing the Medicare Advantage (MA) program (Part C), and prescription drug benefit program (Part D).

Title: Medicare Managed Care Manual – Chapter 9 & Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual – Chapter 12

Date: 11/13/08

Summary: CMS is pleased to release the final versions of Chapter 9 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual (Employer/Union Sponsored Group Health Plans) and Chapter 12 of the Prescription Drug Benefit Manual (Employer/Union Sponsored Group Health Plans). CMS considered all of the comments received on the drafts of Chapter 9 and Chapter 12 that were released on May 14, 2008.

Title: Ongoing Enrollment and Report Reconciliation, Corrections and Retroactivity

Date: 11/13/08

Summary: Plans are required, on an ongoing basis, to review and compare organizational enrollment records with CMS reports to ensure payment accuracy and timely processing requirements are met. This memo summarized these requirements and provides “best practice” tips and reminders.

Title: Monitoring Best Available Evidence (BAE) Policy

Date: 11/13/08

Summary: The purpose of this memorandum is to announce a new initiative to allow CMS to monitor the extent to which Part D sponsors are correctly implementing our BAE policy. This initiative will focus on sponsor compliance in two areas: (1) to determine whether Part D sponsors have acceptable documentation (i.e., BAE) to substantiate more favorable LIS levels for their enrollees, and (2) to assess whether requests to update deemed beneficiaries’ data in the CMS system as a result of BAE have been made in accordance with our guidance.

Title: Holiday Schedule for Plan Finder Communications re: Quality Assurance Checks

Date: 11/13/08

Summary: The purpose of this memo is to alert sponsors about schedule changes during the upcoming holidays for CMS communications regarding potential data issues with data files for posting on Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (MPDPF).

Title: Updated Complaint Tracking Module (CTM) Categories and Subcategories; Hints for Complaint Assignment

Date: 11/13/08

Summary: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to provide an updated list of Health Plan Management System (HPMS) Complaint Tracking Module (CTM) complaint categories and subcategories, as well as a high-level description of each of these categories.