

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending December 19, 2008

Title: Use of the MEDICS for Program Compliance and Enforcement Activities

Date: 12/15/08

Summary: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has entered into a contract with the Medicare Drug Integrity Contractors (MEDICs) to assist CMS with compliance and/or enforcement activities.

Title: Part C & D Reporting Requirements Data Analysis Project

Date: 12/16/08

Summary: The purpose of this memo is to solicit all Part C and D sponsors to establish appropriate points of contact for the Part C& D Reporting Requirements Analysis website. Beyond the Compliance Officer who will automatically be granted access to this website, the most appropriate users are staff who will be directly involved in the process of creating and submitting Part C and D reporting requirement data.

Title: Proposed Changes to MA bid pricing tool for CY 2010

Date: 12/16/08

Summary: The CMS Office of Actuary will host a call on December 19, 2008. The purpose of this call is to discuss potential changes for CY2010 bids, including new guidance for plans with dual eligible beneficiaries' bids.

Title: Revision to the Proposed CY2010 MA Bid Pricing Tool Changes regarding Dual Eligible Beneficiaries

Date: 12/16/08

Summary: This is the second release of the draft contract year (CY) 2010 MA bid pricing tool (BPT) with proposed modifications to explicitly reflect the reduced cost-sharing levels for dual eligible beneficiaries.

Title: Submission of the 2008 Annual Audited Financial Statements

Date: 12/17/08

Summary: This notice emphasizes that the 2008 Annual Audited Financial Statements are to be submitted to CMS no later than April 30, 2009.

Title: Security and Privacy Reminders and Clarification of Reporting Procedures

Date: 12/17/08

Summary: This memo reminds MAOs and PDPs of the necessity to and importance of effectively securing all beneficiaries information, whether in electronic or paper format, and some measures that organizations should take to protect the security and privacy of personally identifiable information.

Title: Important Information on Part C and Part D Appeals for 2009 Plan Year

Date: 12/19/08

Summary: This HPMS memo announces three important items related to appeals for Medicare Advantage (MA) and Part D plans for the 2009 plan year: (1) the Part C and Part D IRE's use of a truncated HICN in beneficiary correspondence (e.g., decision letters) and the inclusion of an additional data point for Part D correspondence; (2) the availability and use of the revised standardized Part D pharmacy notice and prescription drug coverage denial notice; and (3) the request that Medicare Advantage (MA) and Part D plans include a complete evidence of coverage (EOC) and a complete formulary (Part D) when submitting a case file to the IRE.

Title: Industry Training Teleconference Call for 2010 Part C, Part D and Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) Applications

Date: 12/19/08

Summary: This memo announces the industry training for Part C, Part D and EGWP applications for January 7th and 14th.

Title: CMS Offices Closed on January 1, 2009 and Reporting of Emergency/Non Technical Part D Issues

Date: 12/19/08

Summary: Similar to last year, CMS is setting up a Part D operations monitoring program for January 1, 2009. Non-technical significant/emergency issues should be reported to drugbenefitimpl@cms.hhs.gov, and then followed up with an email or phone call to the CMS Account Manager as soon as possible thereafter.

Title: 2009 Call Center Monitoring

Date: 12/19/08

Summary: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will expand its call center monitoring efforts in 2009. This memo describes the elements CMS will monitor and explains how to prepare for the monitoring studies. CMS will proceed with compliance actions against Part C and Part D sponsors that do not meet CMS' call center standards.