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MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 20, 2010

TO: All Medicare Advantage Organizations, 1876 Cost Plans, and Demonstrations

FROM: Danielle R. Moon, J.D., M.P.A.
Director
Medicare Drug & Health Plan Contract Administration Group

RE: Zero Cost Share Preventive Services Attestation

This memorandum provides additional and clarifying information for Medicare Advantage Organizations, 1876 Cost Plans, and Demonstrations related to zero cost share preventive services, as described in our May 10, 2010 memorandum entitled “Supplemental 2011 Benefits Policy and Operational Guidance on Application of the Mandatory Maximum Out-of-Pocket for Dual Eligible SNPs, and Cost Sharing for Preventive Services.”

CMS strongly encourages organizations to offer zero cost sharing for Medicare-covered preventive services so that all Medicare beneficiaries have access to these important benefits. Plans that do not offer these benefits at zero cost sharing will be identified in the Summary of Benefits, Evidence of Coverage, Medicare & You Handbook and Medicare Options Compare as being a plan that does not cover all Medicare-covered preventive services with zero cost-sharing.

All organizations that will offer zero cost sharing for preventive services must indicate in the Plan Benefit Package (PBP) software zero cost sharing in the service categories as described in our May 10, 2010 memo. In addition, all organizations (with the exception of \$0 cost share and Medicaid Subset-\$0 cost share Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans, employer plans, MSA plans and PACE organizations) must complete an attestation in HPMS indicating whether or not they offer all Medicare-covered preventive services as specified in the May 10, 2010 memo at zero cost share. This attestation must be completed by all organizations, even if the organization does not intend to offer all specified preventive services with zero cost sharing. (Organizations that do not intend to offer this service, will be able to indicate “No” to the attestation.)

This attestation will be available for two separate time periods. The first period will be from July 21, 2010 to July 23, 2010, and the second period will be from August 25, 2010 to August 27, 2010. The second period will be made available to all organizations, but is primarily for those organizations that choose to modify their offering of zero cost sharing for Medicare-covered preventive services from the first period. Organizations that have completed the attestation during the first period and

do not have any further changes do not need to take any action during the second attestation period. To access the attestation, plan users should follow this navigation path: HPMS Homepage > Plan Bids > Bid Submission > Contract Year 2011 > Preventive Services Attestation.

Please Note: An organization's decision to attest that a plan does not offer zero cost sharing for all Medicare-covered preventive services as specified in the May 10, 2010 memo will result in that plan being presented in the Summary of Benefits, Evidence of Coverage, Medicare & You Handbook and Medicare Options Compare as being a plan that does not cover all Medicare-covered preventive services with zero cost sharing, even if its PBP indicates that all of the preventive services are offered with zero cost sharing. Both the PBP data entry and an attestation response of "Yes" are required in order for the plan to be displayed as a plan that offers all Medicare-covered preventive services at zero cost sharing. If an organization attests "Yes" to offering zero cost sharing for all Medicare-covered preventive services but still receives a sentence indicating the plan does not cover all Medicare-covered preventive services with zero cost sharing, it is because the PBP data has been entered incorrectly.

CMS will allow changes to the PBP if an organization wants to offer zero cost-sharing for Medicare-covered preventive services and this is not reflected in the original bid submission. If you need to make changes to your PBP data entry, please submit a question to CMS via the website below.

If you require technical assistance, please contact the HPMS Help Desk at 1-800-220-2028 or hpms@cms.hhs.gov.

If you need to make changes to your PBP or have any other questions regarding this memo, please submit a question to CMS at <https://mabenefitsmailbox.lmi.org/>.