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DATE: August 27, 2026

TO: All Prescription Drug Plans, Medicare Advantage-Prescription Drug Plans, Section 1876 Cost Plans, and PACE plans

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

SUBJECT: CY 2027 September Formulary Enhancement Submission Window

CMS is offering a final contract year (CY) 2027 formulary enhancement submission window prior to the start of the contract year. While Part D sponsors may enhance their formularies at any time, including prior to the start of the contract year, we are offering this additional window for plan sponsors to submit formulary enhancements via the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). Submitting formulary enhancements via HPMS during this window allows the Medicare Plan Finder to display accurate and up-to-date formulary information during the Annual Election Period.

The submission window will be open between **12:00 a.m. EDT on September 18, 2026 and 5:00 p.m. EDT on September 22, 2026**. CMS will make an updated CY 2027 Formulary Reference File (FRF) available within the CY 2027 HPMS Formulary Submission Module by close of business on September 15, 2026.

During the September formulary enhancement submission window, Part D sponsors can make the following changes to previously approved CY 2027 formularies:

1. Formulary enhancements, including the addition of a Part D drug, the movement of a formulary drug to a lower cost-sharing tier, and the removal of utilization management requirements. Please note that we do not expect sponsors to make significant formulary enhancements during this window, as the formulary that sponsors initially submitted to CMS for review was used to develop the Part D bid.
2. Immediate substitutions made in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.120(e)(2)(i), and, with respect to selected drugs, in accordance with the [Final CY 2026 Part D Redesign Program Instructions](#) section 90 (as incorporated and extended to 2027)

by [CMS final guidance](#) issued on September 30, 2025).¹

Per 42 CFR § 423.128 and § 423.2265(c), Part D sponsors must post the most current version of the approved formulary on their websites by October 15, 2026. This includes all formulary changes CMS approves during the CY 2027 September window.

If you have any questions regarding this formulary enhancement window, please email PartDFormularies@cms.hhs.gov.

¹ Section 110.1 of the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program: Final Guidance, Implementation of Sections 1191 – 1198 of the Social Security Act for Initial Price Applicability Year 2028 and Manufacturer Effectuation of the Maximum Fair Price in 2026, 2027, and 2028, issued on September 30, 2025 and available at <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/ipay-2028-final-guidance.pdf> (incorporating section 90 of the Final CY 2026 Part D Redesign Program Instructions, issued April 7, 2025, with respect to the successor regulation exception and extending the policies therein to 2027 and 2028).