DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

CENTER FOR MEDICARE

DATE: January 31, 2014

TO: All Current and Prospective Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plan, Cost, PACE, and Demonstration Organizations

FROM: Tracey McCutcheon, MHSA, MBA, Acting Director
Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

SUBJECT: Contract Year 2015 Plan Benefit Package/Summary of Benefits Beta Testing

We would like to express our appreciation for the comments and suggestions provided as part of the Plan Benefit Package/Summary of Benefits (PBP/SB) lessons learned process conducted in July 2013. CMS has used those comments as well as feedback obtained throughout the year to implement changes to the PBP/SB software for Contract Year (CY) 2015.

We are now conducting beta testing to ensure that all aspects of the CY 2015 PBP software work as designed, including the generation of the SB sentences. As with past years, we are requesting your assistance in the final testing of the CY 2015 PBP/SB. Your input has been critical to the development of the CY 2015 PBP/SB, and we strongly encourage you to participate in this testing process.

Testing will take place from **Monday, February 3, 2014 through Friday, February 14, 2014**.

You may download the CY 2015 PBP beta software, lists of the CY 2015 detailed PBP/SB changes, pending PBP/SB changes, known beta software bugs/errors, SB crosswalk and sentences, and SB Introduction templates at the following Internet test website:

http://hpms.cms.fu.com/comments/pbp2015_beta/pbpbeta_start.asp

Please do not insert a "www" in front of this URL, as it will prevent the site from loading.

For technical assistance with downloading and installing the test CY 2015 PBP, please contact the HPMS Help Desk at either 1-800-220-2028 or hpms@cms.hhs.gov.

You must pay close attention to the instructions for downloading this software in order to preserve your production CY 2014 PBP data. It is imperative that you retain your CY 2014 PBP databases if you intend to utilize the year-to-year plan copy functionality included with the CY

2015 PBP software. The year-to-year plan copy functionality will <u>not</u> work if you do not have your CY 2014 PBP database, and CMS will <u>not</u> rebuild your local 2014 database.

Once you have completed testing, please access the PBP beta website (http://hpms.cms.fu.com/comments/pbp2015_beta/pbpbeta_start.asp) to document and submit any technical errors. You will be asked to provide the PBP Section/Function, the PBP question, the error message received, whether the error could be replicated, and the order of events leading up to the error. CMS will use this information to correct the errors and make critical changes to the system before deployment.

Thank you for your assistance with the final testing phase of the CY 2015 PBP/SB. For questions regarding this memo, please contact Erica Scott at either 410-786-0920 or Erica.Scott@cms.hhs.gov or Sara Silver at either 410-786-3330 or Sara.Silver@cms.hhs.gov.