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

Center for Program Integrity

Date:	March 3, 2014
To:	Medicare Advantage Organizations Part D Sponsors Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
From:	Mark Majestic Acting Director, Medicare Program Integrity Group
Subject:	Medicare Exclusion Database (MED)

The purpose of this memorandum is to increase awareness of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Medicare Exclusion Database (MED) for identifying excluded providers. Section 1862(e)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR 1001.1901 state that Medicare payment may not be made for a prescription written by an excluded provider or for items or services furnished by an excluded provider or entity.

The MED is available to help Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs) and Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs) identify excluded providers. The MED is designed to enhance processes that MA plans, PDP sponsors, and PACE organizations employ to identify excluded providers. The MED provides additional unique identifiers and information related to waivers that have been granted by the Office of Inspector General (OIG). The MED files are populated with the OIG List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (LEIE) and also include the CMS National Provider Identifier (NPI). The MED is intended to enhance, not replace, processes and procedures that all plan sponsors are responsible for developing to ensure compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.

Some best practices for using the MED to supplement LEIE are to:

- Manually review the web-based MED to confirm the identity of providers identified on the LEIE
- Use the MED to supplement information in databases created from the LEIE

Best practices for excluded providers who have been granted a waiver by OIG:

- Review the MED for waiver information
- Request providers to supply documentation from the appropriate sanctioning body
- Confirm the services provided fall within the scope of the waiver

- Work with your CMS Regional Account Manager to ensure proper handling of waivers

All plans and Part D sponsors will be provided two users IDs to access the MED. These individuals are encouraged to share MED information across their organization as appropriate.

The link to access the MED is https://med.cms.gov. Users will need to use their Individuals Authorized Access to the CMS Computer Services (IACS) username and password to gain access. If users do not have an IACS username and password, they must apply for one. To obtain access to the MED, users have to register at https://applications.cms.hhs.gov. For assistance with registration contact MED Support Staff, med@cormac-corp.com. For questions about this HPMS memorandum, please contact the MED Team at MED_questions@cms.hhs.gov.