

Date: March 14, 2005

Subject: Mapping of MA Benefit Categories between PBP and Bid Pricing Tool

The draft 2006 Medicare Advantage Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) contains benefit categories that do not correlate one-for-one with the MA Plan Benefit Package (PBP). The BPT forms were developed with the objectives of including a reasonable number of benefit categories, and of providing benefit groupings that are consistent with organizations' accounting & claim systems.

To facilitate the development of the MA bids CMS has developed a draft chart Attachment 1) that provides for a "mapping" of the PBP and BPT benefit categories (as reflected in the Attachment 2 - Worksheet 3 of the draft BPT). We are interested in your comments on the usefulness of this mapping exhibit. Please submit your comments on Attachment 1 to actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov by March 25, 2005. Thank you.