

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending June 30, 2006

Announcements

This past Friday, CMS released the draft 2007 Coordination of Benefit Guidelines. It has come to our attention that the email address for submitting comments was incorrect. The correct email address for submitting comments is drugbenefitimpl@cms.hhs.gov. We will ensure that the correct email address is reflected in the draft guidance on the web at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/02_RxContracting_COB.asp.

We apologize for any inconvenience this correction may have caused. As a reminder, comments may be submitted on this draft until COB July 14, 2006. Please include COB Guidelines in the subject line

Releases

Title: Plan to Plan Reconciliation

Date: June 24, 2006

Summary: Technical instructions for the Plan to Plan Reconciliation process (Phase I - Post Enrollment Reconciliation).

Title: Compliance with HIPAA Administrative Simplification Provisions

Date: June 24, 2006

Summary: HIPAA requires the DHHS to adopt standards for electronic transactions and implementation specifications for those transactions, and standard codes to be used in the transactions.

Title: Q&A Addressing Drug Costs Reported on Prescription Drug Events

Date: June 26, 2006

Summary: This note is to apprise Part D organizations of the deadline to submit requests to update bids as a result of any misunderstandings of CMS policy has been extended. CMS will communicate with you further as to the cut-off date for resubmitting bids for this purpose.

Title: CRT-D Payment Clarification

Date: June 23, 2006

Summary: In 2005, an NCD was issued regarding expanded Medicare coverage of Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (ICDs coded 37.94) to prevent sudden death in people with heart disease. Since this NCD met the significant cost threshold, CMS made payments on a fee-for-service basis for the ICD costs meeting the expanded coverage criteria for services provided on or after January 27, 2005 through December 31, 2005. Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs) were not liable for payment for costs

relating directly to the provision of services related to the ICDs until their payments were appropriately adjusted to take into account the cost of the NCD. The rates of the MAOs were appropriately adjusted effective January 1, 2006. This memorandum addresses the inquiry which has been raised regarding the payment responsibility for the CRT-D device (00.51) versus the AICD device (37.94) for which there is a national coverage determination.

Title: 2005 Financial Statements- Late Submissions

Date: June 30, 2006

Summary: As required under the Fiscal Soundness Reporting Requirements (FSRR), these annual audited financial statements were due to CMS by April 30, 2006. Your organization missed this deadline and therefore is not in compliance with your Medicare Advantage contracting obligations under CFR 42 422.516(a)(5). Please provide CMS with the required annual audited financial statement information no later than Wednesday July 12, 2006.

Title: Announcement regarding Late Enrollment Penalties for plan year 2006

Date: June 30, 2006

Summary: This notice describes the impact of the LEP demonstration on the plans' requirements for reviewing and reporting creditable coverage. It also indicates that further guidance on plans' roles in reviewing and reporting creditable coverage is forthcoming.

Title: Release Medicare Health Outcomes Survey 2005 Cohort 8 Baseline Reports in HPMS

Date: June 23, 2006

Summary: On behalf of the entire Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) Team, CMS is announcing the distribution of the HOS 2005 Cohort 8 Baseline Report for all participating Medicare Advantage Plans.

Title: Special TRR Communication- Week-at-a-Glance June 26th through June 30th (Revised)

Date: June 30, 2006

Summary: Plans were advised that the target date for the Special TRRs provided might be altered due to system resources and other factors. It was also stated that the MMAHelp Desk would communicate any changes to the schedule that occur after the memo was published to Plans.

Title: Special TRR Communication- Week-at-a-Glance July 1st through July 8th

Date: June 30, 2006

Summary: The following communication describes the Special TRRs that CMS is preparing to send to Plans during the week of July 1, 2006. It also includes special notices detailing system availability. The focus of the TRRs is described in the communication.

Title: Announcement regarding Late Enrollment Penalties for plan year 2006

Date: June 30, 2006

Summary: According to the Medicare Modernization Act statute and regulations, an LEP will be assessed by CMS for each full calendar month following a beneficiary's Initial Enrollment Period (IEP), which falls during any continuous period of 63 days or longer.

Title: CY 2007 Annual Notice of Change

Date: June 30, 2006

Summary: Today we are releasing for comment the 2007 draft Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) for Medicare Advantage Organizations, Demonstrations and Medicare Cost plans. The draft ANOCs includes specific changes in Medicare and plan benefits, plan premiums and plan rules effective January 1, 2007. In particular, the revised draft ANOCs contains information specific to the Medicare Part D Benefit, Open Enrollment Period limitations and important information for beneficiaries receiving extra help.