

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending June 9, 2006

Releases

Title: Hurricane Katrina Enrollment

Date: June 8, 2006

Summary: We anticipate an HPMS release updating the Katrina SEP instructions for plans. The memo will clarify the populations that are eligible for a special election period and reference the FEMA website for further info. This is in response to several recent Congressional inquiries on our existing instructions.

Title: Medicare Demonstration to Transition Enrollment of Low Income Subsidy Beneficiaries

Date: June 8, 2006

Summary: In order to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries continue to have strong incentive to enroll in low cost plans, as they did in 2006, Secretary Leavitt has announced a new transitional approach that will help ensure that low income beneficiaries have access to a variety of affordable plans.

Title: Conference Call on LIS Benchmark Calculations

Date: June 8, 2006

Summary: Today CMS released information concerning the 2007 calculation of the regional low income benchmark amount to be used to determine the low income subsidy. The conference call was held at 5:30pm. If you have questions, please contact Meghan Elrington at (410) 786-8675.

Title: 2007 Plan Year Pricing Data Requirements and Submission Schedule

Date: June 9, 2006

Summary: The information contains the updated 2007 CMS guidance and schedule for the submission of the pricing and pharmacy data for posting on the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder. There are no current changes to the 2006 Plan Year pricing data submissions at this time.

Title: Privacy and Security of Beneficiary Information

Date: June 9, 2006

Summary: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) wants to remind all Medicare Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Sponsors of their contractual obligation to abide by all Federal and State laws regarding confidentiality and disclosure of medical records, and other personally identifiable health information (see Article X of the Medicare Advantage Coordinated Care Plan Contract and Article IV of the Prescription Drug Plan Sponsor Contract and Article IV of the Addendum to the Medicare Managed Care Contract). As a requirement of participation

in the Medicare program, compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is mandatory.

**Title: Conference Call on Monday, June 12th at 1:00 p.m. EDT to Discuss
Transitioning Enrollment of Low Income Subsidy Beneficiaries**

Date: June 9, 2006

Summary: On Friday, June 8th, CMS released guidance concerning an alternative policy for determining the calculation of the Part D low-income benchmark premium amounts for 2007 and subsequent years.