

SUMMARY OF HPMS RELEASES

For the week ending July 21, 2006

Announcements

4Rx Performance Metrics Data: On Friday, July 21, 2006 another week's worth of 4Rx data will be available for Plans to view via HPMS from the Contract Management/Part D Performance Metrics page.

Marketing guidelines are available on www.cms.hhs.gov.

Title: Special Enrollment Period for SPAP Beneficiaries

Date: July 17, 2006

Summary: This memo clarifies the existing Special Enrollment Period (SEP) provided to members of Qualified State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs (SPAPs).

Title: Expedited Review of New Drugs or New Indications for Drugs in the Six Classes of Clinical Concern

Date: July 21, 2006

Summary: In the 2007 formulary guidance, we indicated an expectation that any new drug or new indication for a drug within the six classes of clinical concern, that was approved after April 17, 2006, will be subject to an expedited Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) committee review. The expedited review process requires P&T committees to make a decision within 90 days, rather than the normal 180-day requirement. Please see the attached memo from Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group, regarding the expedited review of new drugs or new indications for drugs in the six classes of clinical concern.

Title: Part D Sponsors and 4Rx Data

Date: July 19, 2006

Summary: Please see the attached memo from Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group, regarding the posting of 4Rx data on HPMS. In addition, CMS will be monitoring 4Rx data to ensure that plans are providing information in a timely manner.

Title: Modified Q&A Addressing Drug Costs Reported on Prescription Drug Events (PDEs)

Date: July 20, 2006

Summary: Please see the attached memo from Abby L. Block, Director, Center for Beneficiary Choices, regarding a modified Q&A addressing drug costs reported on PDEs.

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Title: Plan Finder Suppression Policy

Date: July 17, 2006

Summary: Please see the attached memo from Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group, regarding pricing file suppressions from the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (MPDPF).

Title: Part D Complaints Assigned to the Parent Organization

Date: July 21, 2006

Summary: Please see the attached memo from Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group, regarding Part D complaints received by 1-800-Medicare. The 1-800-Medicare Customer Service Representatives (CSRs) work with beneficiaries to collect as much information as possible, but in some instances the beneficiary does not have the contract ID for the plan that they are complaining about, but they do have the plan's name. Currently 1-800-Medicare CSRs are assigning these complaints to a plan contract ID of unknown. To ensure that these complaints are brought to the plans attention in a timely manner, 1-800-Medicare CSRs will assign these complaints to the appropriate parent organization by selecting the plan contract ID within the parent organization that has the greatest enrollment.

Title: HPMS Maintenance Window for Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Date: July 17, 2006

Summary: CMS will be taking the HPMS SSL VPN offline the evening of Tuesday, July 18, 2006 from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Title: Week-at-a-Glance

Date: July 20, 2006

Summary: This Week-at-a-Glance (WAAG) informs the MMA Plans of the Transaction Reply Reports (TRR) that will be forthcoming during the week of July 17-21.

Title: Week-at-a-Glance

Date: July 20, 2006

Summary: This Week-at-a-Glance (WAAG) informs the MMA Plans of the Transaction Reply Reports (TRR) that will be forthcoming during the week of July 24-28.