

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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CENTER FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 8, 2006

Memorandum to: All Part D Plan Sponsors

From: Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group

Subject: Part D Sponsors Pricing Performance Metric

This memo is to announce the availability of a new module in HPMS on plan performance related to data submissions for the display of pricing information on the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (MPDPF). This module can be accessed through the “Contract Management”/“Part D Performance Metrics” page. Part D plan sponsors now have the ability to view their performance in successfully submitting pricing data and the stability of these price data as displayed on MPDPF during the period of January through September 2006.

The first pricing performance metric focuses on the percent of times a contract’s data were successfully displayed on the MPDPF based on the number of available data submission windows. The second pricing performance metric focuses on the rate of price stability as displayed on the MPDPF.

These metrics will be reported publicly during open enrollment and integrated into the display of other performance metrics on the MPDPF. Technical notes are also provided on HPMS which describe each of the columns in the report.

CMS considers the accuracy and reliability of these data to be critical. Beneficiaries have come to depend on information displayed on the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder to help make an informed decision about plan selection.

Again, thank you for your continued support of the Medicare prescription drug benefit. If you have any questions or comments about these data, please submit via email to PartDMetrics@cms.hhs.gov and put “Pricing” in the subject line.