

**Summary of HPMS Releases**  
For the week ending December 8, 2006

**Title: Part D Vaccines**

**Date: 12/1/06**

**Summary:** Over the last few months we have had a number of inquiries on our Part D User Calls related to Part D Vaccines, increasing access to Part D Vaccines, and the possibility of any associated vaccine administration fees. To provide a better understanding and continue our outreach on Part D vaccines, we have included a series of Question and Answers that address these incoming inquiries.

**Title: Posting of Draft 2008 Medicare Advantage Applications for Public Comment**

**Date: 12/1/06**

**Summary:** Comments on the Draft-2008 Part C Applications are due to CMS by 5:00 p.m. EST on December 11, 2006.

**Title: Marketing Activities for Organizations Employing or Contracting with Sales Agents**

**Date: 12/1/06**

**Summary:** CMS has received complaints concerning inappropriate marketing activities performed by sales agents. Therefore, MA organizations and Part D sponsors are reminded that sales agents who are employed or contracted to market a plan must comply with all applicable MA and/or Part D laws, and all other Federal Health care laws, and CMS policies, including the CMS marketing guidelines to ensure beneficiaries receive truthful and accurate information.

**Title: Medicare Part D Manual – Draft of Chapter 7**

**Date: 12/4/06**

**Summary:** We are releasing for comment the draft of Chapter 7 of the Medicare Part D Manual. The draft of Chapter 7 consolidates previous guidance, questions and answers, and HPMS memos. Comments on the draft of Chapter 7 must be received by CMS no later than 5:00 p.m. EST, Friday, December 15, 2006. Comments must be submitted via e-mail at [PartDBenefitImpl@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PartDBenefitImpl@cms.hhs.gov). Please include **Chapter 7** in the subject line of the email. If you have questions contact Greg Dill (312) 353-1754.

**Title: Clarification of LTE DESI Drugs and Oral Anti-Cancer Agents**

**Date: 12/5/06**

**Summary:** Since we published the draft version of Chapter 6 of the Part D manual in September 2006, Part D Sponsors have reviewed their processes in relation to our proposed guidance. Consequently, we have received a number of comments and inquiries related to FDA's Less-than-effective Drug Efficacy Study Implementation (LTE DESI) drugs and Oral Anti-Cancer Agents covered under Part B. While we are continuing to finalize Chapter 6, we want to address these specific topics to assist Part D Sponsors. To that end we have included two questions and answers with this memorandum that articulate our policy and approach.

**Title: Meeting 2007 Evidence of Coverage (EOC) Mailing Deadline**

**Date: 12/5/06**

**Summary:** We are writing to request Medicare Advantage (MA) Organizations and Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Sponsors to provide us an update on their plans for issuing their Evidences of Coverage (EOC) and related documents on or before the January 31, 2007 deadline.

**Title: ACTION – Important Health Plan Management System (HPMS) Connectivity Notification**

**Date: 12/6/06**

**Summary:** CMS will be moving its web hosting environment. As part of this effort, HPMS is currently scheduled to be relocated to the EDC on **Monday, January 8, 2007**.

System downtime will be required to perform the final cutover. CMS is working to minimize the downtime in order to lessen the impact on the business processes supported by HPMS. At this time, we anticipate that the system will be unavailable beginning close of business on Thursday, January 4 until the morning of Monday, January 8. CMS will communicate the final production cutover plan to organizations in a future memorandum.

**Title: Reconciling CMS Low Income Subsidy (LIS) Status and “Best Available Data” Policy for 2006 and 2007**

**Date: 12/6/06**

**Summary:** Early in 2006, a number of factors contributed to the problem of incorrect cost-sharing levels for full-benefit dual eligibles and other LIS eligible individuals. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide instructions for reconciling CMS LIS status and implementing the best available data policy<sup>[1]</sup> for 2006 and for 2007. This memorandum amends certain instructions issued in our October 30, 2006 memorandum entitled, “Implementing our Best Available Data Policy for Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) Status”.

**Title: SNP Application Review and Comment**

**Date: 12/6/06**

**Summary:** This memo is asking MAOs currently offering SNPs to provide comments on the applications that were posted yesterday. If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

**Title: Risk Adjustment Data Submission Policy for Medicare Advantage Organizations**

**Date: 12/6/06**

**Summary:** The correspondence provides clarification on the requirements for the submission of risk adjustment data by Medicare Advantage (MA) organizations.

**Title: 2007 Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) Status and Premium Amounts**

**Date: 12/6/06**

**Summary:** The purpose of this memo is to provide information about two forthcoming enrollment files that contain important information about changes to members' low-income subsidy eligibility and premiums for 2007. This memo also describes the actions plans are required to take once they receive this information, including setting members' low-income cost-sharing (LICS) level effective January 1, 2007, mailing the appropriate LIS rider for the 2007 calendar year, and confirming and correcting, as necessary, Part C premium data.

**Title: 2007 Model Medicare Advantage Provider Directory**

**Date: 12/6/06**

**Summary:** The model MA Provider Directory is intended for use by all MA Organizations, 1876 Cost Plans and Health Plan Demonstrations to explain how to receive care and provide a listing of doctors, specialists, hospitals and pharmacies. While use of the model is optional, organizations are strongly encouraged to use the model language without modification and will receive a 10-day review.

**Title: HPMS – Availability of Low-Income Premium Subsidy Amounts Paid to Part D Sponsors**

**Date: 12/8/06**

**Summary:** HPMS has been modified to include a new table that provides Part D Sponsors, including those that offer employer/union-only group waiver (i.e., "800 series") plans, with the monthly payment amounts they receive to subsidize their low-income enrollees' premiums. HPMS will continue to have a separate table providing the low-income premiums that beneficiaries pay in the plans. However, in this table HPMS will no longer display the low income premiums for enrollees in "800 series" plans. (The premium table will show "N/A" for those plans.) This reflects the fact that premiums for beneficiaries across employer/union groups in a given "800 series" plan can vary.