



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Beneficiary Choices

7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244

DATE: May 10, 2007

TO: All Medicare Advantage Private Fee-for-Service Organizations

FROM: David A. Lewis
Director, Medicare Advantage Group

SUBJECT: Provider Access to Private Fee-for-Service Plan Terms and Conditions of Payment

CMS is posting on its website contact information for all Medicare Advantage (MA) Organizations offering Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) plans that would allow Medicare providers to easily access the plan terms and conditions of payment. CMS is taking this step in response to provider inquiries and concerns that additional assistance is needed for providers to understand the PFFS program, and specifically how they will be paid.

A PFFS plan's terms and conditions of payment establish the rules that providers must follow if they choose to furnish services to plan members. It also specifies the amounts the plan will pay providers for covered services and the amounts providers are permitted to collect from members. PFFS plans are required to make their terms and conditions of payment reasonably available to U.S. providers. A provider has reasonable access to a plan's terms and conditions of payment if the plan provides the terms and conditions of payment and makes this information easily accessible through electronic mail, fax, telephone, or the plan website. It is the provider's responsibility to obtain the plan's terms and conditions of payment.

CMS hopes posting the terms and conditions of payment contact information for PFFS plans will facilitate provider access to this information. As indicated in the 2008 Call Letter, CMS encourages plans to promote provider relations to ensure providers are willing to participate.

The contact information for all MA PFFS contracts will be posted on <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrivateFeeforServicePlans/>. If you have any updates to the attached chart or would like to make corrections to the information that is posted on the CMS website, please contact Sabrina Ahmed at sabrina.ahmed@cms.hhs.gov or 410-786-7499. CMS will be posting updates to the contact information on a monthly basis.

In the future, CMS will be adding new fields in HPMS to allow PFFS plans to directly provide CMS with their plan terms and conditions of payment provider contact information. Once HPMS is updated, we will notify all PFFS plans to provide this information to CMS as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.