

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

DATE: October 3, 2007

TO: All Part D Sponsors

FROM: Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group
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SUBJECT: Special Election Period for Beneficiaries affected by the 2008
Non-renewing Plans

This memo provides information on a Special Election Period (SEP) applicable to Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in a Prescription Drug Plan (PDP). Effective 2008 there are Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs) that are either non-renewing their contract with CMS or undergoing a Service Area Reduction (SAR), which may consist of a change from an Individual Market PDP to an Employer Only PDP.

Beneficiaries enrolled in a plan that is non-renewing or undergoing a SAR will receive a letter from their plan by October 2, 2007 informing them that they must enroll in a new Part D plan in order to have Part D coverage in 2008. These beneficiaries are entitled to a special election period (SEP) that will allow them to enroll in any PDP or MA-PD with an effective date of November 1, 2007, December 1, 2007, or January 1, 2008. However, the effective date may not be earlier than the date that the newly elected sponsor received the completed election form. All PDPs and MA-PDs are required to accept enrollment for a beneficiary that is eligible for this SEP.

Thank you for your cooperation on this issue and for your continued service to Medicare beneficiaries. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these instructions, please contact your central office account manager (PDPs) or regional office plan manager (MA-PDs).