

HPMS E-Mail

Date: April 26, 2011

To: All Medicare Advantage Organizations, Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors, and Other Interested Parties

From: Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

Subject: Request for comments regarding enhancements to the MA and Part D Plan Ratings

In the “Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2012 Medicare Advantage Capitation Rates and Medicare Advantage and Part D Payment Policies and Final Call Letter,” CMS indicated that we intend to weight scoring methodologies towards outcome, patient experience and functional status measures for CY 2012 star ratings and beyond. We also noted that we would re-visit the set of measures included in the Plan Ratings each year, and we would reward contracts for quality improvement in the Plan Ratings.

In this request, we are soliciting comments on: (1) how to weight the quality and performance measures that are included in the Plan Ratings; (2) which measures to potentially retire from the Plan Ratings; and (3) which measures to include when measuring quality improvement in the Medicare Advantage (MA) and Part D Plan Ratings.

We will consider all comments received by May 6, 2011 at 5pm EDT as we develop the methodology for 2012 Plan Ratings. Please submit only one set of responses per organization at the following link: <http://vovici.com/wsb.dll/s/11dc4g4a798>.

If you have any questions, please contact us at PartCRatings@cms.hhs.gov. Thank you for your participation.