



Center for Strategic Planning

Date: November 4, 2011

To: All Medicare Advantage Organizations

From: Jason Petroski, PhD
Director
Division of Survey Management and Analysis

SUBJECT: Medicare Health Outcomes Survey 2008-2010 Cohort 11 Performance
Measurement Electronic Data

On behalf of the entire Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) Team, I am pleased to announce that the Medicare HOS 2008-2010 Cohort 11 Performance Measurement beneficiary level data are available for those organizations that continue to participate in the Medicare Advantage program. The HOS measure is a Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS[®])¹ outcomes measure for Medicare Advantage.

The HOS 2008-2010 Cohort 11 Performance Measurement Electronic Data File and accompanying documentation are the tenth release of beneficiary level HOS data to individual Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs). The HOS data are intended to support MAO quality improvement activities and initiatives.

Due to the extremely sensitive nature of these data, CMS previously consulted with industry representatives to identify an efficient process for disseminating these data while ensuring their security and confidentiality. As a result, each participating MAO may obtain their data from the Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) by contacting HOS Information and Technical Support via e-mail at hos@azqio.sdps.org. Please provide your organization's designated recipient of these data, your plan's address, return telephone number, and CMS contract number(s). The data are available for distribution to MAOs at no cost, and will be provided on an encrypted CD-ROM formatted as a comma separated value file.

If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact HSAG through the HOS Information and Technical Support email address listed above or by telephone at (888) 880-0077. Should you have a policy or program concern related to the HOS, you may contact CMS at HOS@cms.hhs.gov. For a general overview of the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey program, visit CMS' HOS web address (www.cms.gov/hos). A full description of the HOS program that includes links to research data files, data user's guides, uses of the HOS data, and additional information may be found at www.HOSonline.org.

¹ HEDIS[®] is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance