



MEDICARE DRUG BENEFIT AND C&D DATA GROUP

TO: Medicare Compliance Officers, Part C & D Sponsors

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

SUBJECT: Second Plan Preview of 2013 Part C and D Plan Ratings Data

DATE: September 6, 2012

CMS will release Parts C and D Plan Ratings during this fall's 2013 open enrollment period. Medicare beneficiaries will be able to view these Plan Ratings via the Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) on www.medicare.gov. This memo is to inform Part C and Part D sponsors of the second plan preview period scheduled to begin on September 7, 2012. This preview period allows you to review your Plan Ratings data and star assignments in HPMS prior to display on the MPF.

For both Part C and Part D Plan Ratings, CMS will display star assignments for each measure, domain, summary and overall level by contract. Cut-points and thresholds for each measure are provided in the technical notes. The improvement measures star ratings (C33/D09) will be also be available during Plan Preview 2. There will be an icon that identifies high and low performing contracts displayed on the MPF.

Questions will be addressed on a rolling basis and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on **September 18, 2012**.

Instructions for Accessing Preview Data

- To access the Part C Plan Ratings preview in HPMS, from the left navigation bar select: "Quality and Performance", then "Part C Performance Metrics", then "Part C Report Card Master Table" and then select 2013 for the report period.
- To access the Part D Plan Ratings preview, from the left navigation bar select: "Quality and Performance", then "Part D Performance Metrics and Reports", then "Part D Report Card Master Table" and then select 2013 for the report period.
- The technical notes for Part C and D are available via the "Technical Notes" link found on each page in the Master Table modules.

A final list of Part C and D new and transitioned measures is available in Attachment 1.

Changes made to the measures since the first Plan Preview:

Part C and D Enrollment Timeliness: This measure has been revised to exclude Special Needs Plans (SNPs), cost plans and Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) and IEP2 transactions.

During the second plan preview period, CMS expects sponsors to closely review the methodology and their posted data for each measure. Please alert CMS immediately of any

suspected data issues or errors in order to allow sufficient time to investigate and process any necessary data corrections. Attachment 2 of this memo lists the information necessary for CMS to process plans' comments. Please be sure to include all listed information in your email to CMS to ensure timely responses. Questions will be addressed on a rolling basis and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on **September 18, 2012**.

Comments or questions about Part C Plan Ratings should be sent to PartCRatings@cms.hhs.gov.

Comments or questions about Part D Plan Ratings should be sent to PartDMetrics@cms.hhs.gov.

Thank you for your continued commitment to ensuring the success of the Medicare health and prescription drug programs.

Attachment 1: New Measures for 2013 and Measures Transitioned to the Display Page

1. New Measures

- a) C29 - Care Coordination
- b) C33 - Improvement
- c) C37 - Enrollment Timeliness
- d) D09 - Improvement

2. Transitioned measures

- a) Part C: Pneumonia Vaccine
- b) Part C: Access to Primary Care Doctor Visits
- c) Part D: MPF Stability (removed from last year's MPF Composite measure)

Attachment 2: Required Information for Plan Comments

In order for CMS to efficiently process all plan comments during plan preview periods, the following information must be provided when submitting comments. Failure to provide this information may prevent CMS from responding to comments or questions.

- Identifying information:
 - Contract ID(s) (all that apply)
 - Contract Names
 - PBM/ Contractor (if applicable)
 - Contact Name
 - Contact Email
 - Contact Phone
 - Plan Rating Type (Part C or D)
- Detailed Information:
 - Measure Name
 - Question/Concern (provide as much detail as possible)
- CMS is not seeking general comments on the Plan Ratings at this time. There will be an opportunity for plans to comment during the Request for Comments period.
- The technical notes for 2013 have been greatly enhanced from previous versions. Before sending CMS a question, please review the technical notes, including all attachments, for information related to your question.
- Please be sure to encrypt/password protect any files containing protected health information (PHI). Please do not send emails via web-based email systems that require separate log-in, passwords. Messages must be sent directly to the CMS Part C and D mailboxes.