



MEDICARE DRUG BENEFIT AND C&D DATA GROUP

DATE: June 11, 2013

TO: Medicare-Medicaid Plans in Massachusetts

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

SUBJECT: Updated Information Regarding CY 2013 Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) Submissions by Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs) in Massachusetts

In our July 19, 2012 HPMS memorandum, “Updated Information re: Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) Submissions by Financial Alignment Demonstration Contracts,” CMS announced a delay for Medicare-Medicaid Plans’ (MMPs’) submission of biweekly Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) data to accommodate a mid-2013 target start date for Massachusetts’ Capitated Financial Alignment Demonstration. Given the state’s recent announcement that its demonstration is expected to begin enrollment on October 1, 2013 and that MMPs are expected to begin marketing after September 1, 2013, this memorandum provides updated information on the required resumption of CY 2013 biweekly drug pricing data submissions for display in the Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) tool on www.medicare.gov. Having data display on the MPF is important because it allows beneficiaries to compare available plans based on the expected costs and coverage of their drugs.

MMPs in Massachusetts may submit CY 2013 drug pricing files at any time, but they must begin to do so no later than the August 5-6, 2013 Plan Finder Pricing Data Submission Window. This will allow sufficient time to ensure there are no issues with these submissions prior to the September 2, 2013 display of pricing data on MPF. We encourage earlier submission so that plans can resolve any issues that would result in suppression of drug pricing on MPF starting on September 2, 2013.

We would also recommend that MMPs in Massachusetts take advantage of our three CY 2014 pricing data test submissions. For these dates and other information about the CY 2014 pricing file requirements, please refer to http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prescription-Drug-Coverage/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/RxContracting_FormularyGuidance.html in the download section called “2014 Pricing Data Guidelines and Calendar (V04.30.13).”

For more information about the CY 2013 pricing file requirements, please refer to the CY 2013 Pricing Data Guidelines located at http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prescription-Drug-Coverage/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/RxContracting_FormularyGuidance.html in the download section called “2013 Pricing Data Guidelines and Calendar (V05.02.12).” Organizations may also contact the DRx help desk for additional information. DRx’s help desk information is plancompare@drx.com or 888-203-8497. The DRx help desk is available between the hours of 8:30AM – 6:30PM ET.