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**DATE:** March 10, 2022

**TO:** All Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plan, Cost, PACE, and Demonstration Organizations

**FROM:** Amy Larrick Chavez-Valdez, Director  
Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

**SUBJECT:** Health Plan Management System (HPMS) Plan Benefit Package (PBP) Technical Redesign

Since its inception, the PBP software has played an integral part in the business operations of the MA and Part D programs. Beyond capturing the comprehensive benefit offerings for the annual bidding process, the PBP produces data that is used to support critical downstream activities, including, but not limited to, the following: beneficiary enrollment, plan payment, premium withhold, eligibility, appeals processing, production of the Medicare & You Handbook, and the Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) and Online Enrollment Center (OEC) applications on [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

CMS is pleased to announce the launch of a modernized PBP for Contract Year (CY) 2024. The new PBP software will migrate from its current client/server based platform to a new web-based module within HPMS. In addition, CMS will offer an application programming interface (API) option for plans and third party vendors.

As part of this technical redesign, CMS has updated the user interface as well as the data entry workflow. To provide downstream users with more time to transition, CMS will map the new PBP variables to the current database structure for the foreseeable future.

**Note:** The Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) will continue in current Excel-based format.

CMS has developed a narrated recording that demonstrates the new PBP workflow using an HMOPOS plan type. The recording has been posted at the following URL:  
<https://cms.zoomgov.com/rec/share/jSeN26Z9rE7r3RUr1HcePOmJYprEVwZrgzGzDfcSAy3dLwo2DoiryJYCP72KmKPB.j2SLu8y1qIIYtyLw?startTime=1646783280000>

This demonstration covers the new PBP workflow only. The following areas will be discussed in future communications:

- Plan copy feature
- Reports

- API submissions
- Opportunities to test the new PBP software
- Integration of the new PBP into the overall bid submission process in HPMS

Comments on the new PBP workflow must be submitted using the following link:

<https://877fp303.optimalworkshop.com/questions/vt214x0s-0-0-0-0>

CMS will accept comments until **Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time**. Users may access and submit comments as many times needed.

For questions regarding the PBP modernization effort, please contact Sara Walters at [sara.walters@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:sara.walters@cms.hhs.gov).