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DATE: January 15, 2020

TO: Medicare Advantage Organizations, Cost Plans, and Demonstrations

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

SUBJECT: HEDIS® 2020 Patient-Level Detail Data File Submission Information

Overview

Sections 422.152 and 422.516 of Volume 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) state that contracts must submit quality performance measures as specified by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Secretary and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

This memorandum provides details regarding the HEDIS patient-level detail (PLD) data reporting requirements for 2020. This memo supersedes the reporting requirements for HEDIS 2020 PLD data in the CMS Medicare Managed Care Manual (any volume) or other sources.

HEDIS 2020 PLD Data

As part of the HEDIS 2020 (reporting year) quality reporting requirements, health plans must submit their HEDIS PLD data to CMS for the 2019 measurement year (MY). CMS has posted the HEDIS 2020 PLD data instructional documents at: <http://go.cms.gov/plandata> under the “Downloads” section, near the bottom of the page. These documents include directions for File 1 and File 2, submission instructions, and a crosswalk identifying the changes from HEDIS 2019 PLD to HEDIS 2020 PLD.

All HEDIS 2020 validated and audited PLD data must be submitted to CMS by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on Monday, June 15, 2020. There are no late submissions.

HEDIS 2020 PLD Resources

CMS posted the HEDIS 2020 PLD file instructional documents at: <http://go.cms.gov/plandata> under the “Downloads” section, near the bottom of the page.

Here is the list of the posted documents:

1. HEDIS 2020 PLD File Specifications, File 1 of 2 (2019 MY)
2. HEDIS 2020 PLD File Specifications, File 2 of 2 (2019 MY)
3. HEDIS 2020 PLD File 1 of 2 (2019 MY)
4. HEDIS 2020 PLD File 2 of 2 (2019 MY)
5. HEDIS 2019 to HEDIS 2020 File Specifications Crosswalk
6. HEDIS 2020 PLD File Submission Instructions

Use all six of the HEDIS 2020 PLD documents on <http://go.cms.gov/plandata> to produce your MY 2019 HEDIS PLD data files for your HEDIS 2020 PLD file submissions. Be sure to inform your NCQA-Certified HEDIS Compliance Auditor and any third-party vendor submitting these data on your behalf about the instructions on <http://go.cms.gov/plandata>.

Although the *Enrollment by Product Line* (ENP) measure was removed from the CMS Reporting Requirements for HEDIS 2020 summary-level submissions, contracts must report the ENP measure to NCQA through the Interactive Data Submissions System (IDSS) because it is used by auditors to validate member months.

File Submission to CMS

All contracts must submit their HEDIS 2020 PLD data files into the secure CMS Enterprise File Transfer (EFT) infrastructure using an existing Gentran, Managed File Transfer (MFT) Internet, or Connect:Direct account which is currently used to submit other beneficiary specific information to CMS. Contracts will use their existing EFT method to upload their HEDIS 2020 PLD data (MY 2019) using the file naming conventions in the HEDIS 2020 PLD file submission instructions.

If you use the services of a third-party vendor to do the EFT, notify them about the HEDIS 2020 PLD file submission requirements so that they can successfully submit your HEDIS 2020 PLD files on your behalf. You must submit the HEDIS 2020 PLD data files from 8:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 through 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on Monday, June 15, 2020. In the event your file (or files) does (do) not pass validation, you should immediately inform your vendor submitting files for you so that your vendor may successfully resubmit the corrected file or files by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on Monday, June 15, 2020.

Scope Infotech, Inc., the CMS contractor for HEDIS PLD, will access your submitted data through the same secure system to complete the validation of the data files. CMS requires that your company designate a “Point of Contact” (POC). Your designated POC will be issued one User ID and each POC will have to create their own passwords to see the status of your HEDIS 2020 PLD data submissions via the secure portal at <https://hedispld.cms.gov> during the submission period. Scope Infotech, Inc., is fully accountable for adhering to Federal laws and regulations regarding security and confidentiality of personally identifiable information and protected health information in their stated CMS contract.

CMS recommends that your designated POC completely follow the steps in the HEDIS 2020 PLD File Submission Instructions to request secure portal access for another person in your MA organization to be a back-up POC to the designated POC. The Primary POC may request to add

a back-up POC by contacting Scope Infotech at HEDISPLD_Helpdesk@cms.hhs.gov. Only the Primary POC may request to add a back-up POC to the HEDIS PLD Portal.

For questions about the HEDIS 2020 PLD file specifications, data submission instructions, and other related matters, please email HEDISPLD_Helpdesk@cms.hhs.gov.

The Dry Run for HEDIS 2020 PLD

To ensure a successful submission, CMS strongly recommends that everyone participate in a dry run to ensure that their connectivity is in place and that their files are formatted correctly. If you experience any issues regarding dry run participation, please send your inquiries to Scope Infotech, Inc. at HEDISPLD_Helpdesk@cms.hhs.gov by April 6, 2020 for guidance.

All dry run participants will submit their respective HEDIS PLD data for the HEDIS 2020 PLD dry run from 9:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on Monday, April 6, 2020 through 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on Friday, May 1, 2020 through the EFT.

The purpose of the HEDIS 2020 PLD data dry run is for verifying the EFT connectivity and for finding programming or logic errors prior to the official HEDIS 2020 PLD file submission to CMS.

The HEDIS 2020 PLD portal URL for the dry run will be different from the HEDIS 2020 PLD portal URL for the official file submission beginning Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 8:00 a.m., Eastern Time.

The HEDIS 2020 PLD portal URL for the dry run is: <https://hedispld-val.cms.gov/>

The HEDIS 2020 PLD portal URL for the official file submission is: <https://hedispld.cms.gov>

For more information about providing a test file for the dry run, read the “Patient-Level Data Submission Process Overview” section of the Submission Instructions or email Scope Infotech at HEDISPLD_Helpdesk@cms.hhs.gov.

As part of your HEDIS 2020 PLD file submission, it is critical to ensure that the HEDIS 2020 PLD file submission match your HEDIS 2020 Summary-Level data file submission. If you have questions about your HEDIS 2020 Summary-Level data file submission, please contact your HEDIS account manager at NCQA.

For questions about this memorandum, please email HEDISquestions@cms.hhs.gov.