

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
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Baltimore, Maryland 21244



**OFFICE OF THE ACTUARY**

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**TO:** Medicare Advantage & Prescription Drug CY 2009 Plan Sponsors  
and Certifying Actuaries

**FROM:** Paul Spitalnic, Director, Parts C & D Actuarial Group

**DATE:** February 11, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Contract Year 2009 MA and Part D Bid Pricing Tool Beta Testing

We are pleased to announce that CMS will be conducting beta testing of the draft CY 2009 Bid Pricing Tools. Testing will take place from Monday, February 18, 2008 to Friday, February 29, 2008. During this time, you may download the draft CY 2009 bid forms and instructions at the following website: [http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/bpt2009\\_beta/home.html](http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/bpt2009_beta/home.html)

If you have any comments on the beta BPT and instructions, please submit them as soon as possible but no later than **COB Friday, February 29, 2008** in order for CMS to continue the development of the CY 2009 BPTs to meet the expected production release on April 11, 2008. Any comments should be reported to CMS via the website indicated above.

Please note that this beta release contains draft versions of the CY2009 bid forms and instructions. As such:

- The BPTs and instructions are subject to change by CMS prior to the production release.
- The beta BPTs cannot be used to upload any CY2009 bids to HPMS. Plans must download the production BPTs, and use the production BPTs to prepare and upload all CY2009 bids.
- The beta BPT does not contain certain annual parameter updates for CY2009. For example, the MA ratebook and Part D benefit parameters will not be updated (i.e., the beta BPTs contain CY2008 values).

Thank you for your assistance with this process. If you have any questions regarding this announcement, please contact CMS Office of the Actuary (OACT) at [actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov)