

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Beneficiary Choices
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PLAN OVERSIGHT & ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP

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

FROM: Cynthia Moreno, Director

DATE: April 11, 2008

SUBJECT: Release of the 2009 Plan Benefit Package and Bid Pricing Tool Software

CMS is pleased to announce the release of the Contract Year (CY) 2009 Plan Benefit Package (PBP) and Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) software and plan creation functionality in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS).

To access the 2009 plan creation module, PBP and BPT software, and corresponding technical instructions, plan users should use the following navigation path in HPMS: HPMS Homepage > Plan Bids > Bid Submission > Contract Year 2009 > Bid 2009 Start Page.

Important Note: CMS will be issuing a 2009 PBP software patch with the release of the HPMS bid upload functionality on May 16, 2008. The download and installation of PBP software patch #1 is **mandatory** for all plans and **MUST** be applied to successfully submit your bids. Additional information on the PBP software patch is forthcoming in future HPMS correspondence.

If you require technical assistance, please contact the HPMS Help Desk at 1-800-220-2028 or hpms@cms.hhs.gov.

If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Sara Walters at either 410-786-3330 or sara.walters@cms.hhs.gov.

Thank you.