

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



CENTER FOR DRUG and HEALTH PLAN CHOICE

TO: Part D Plan Sponsors

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

SUBJECT: Access to Patient Safety Analysis Website

DATE: July 28, 2008

To support the President's Agenda on health care transparency, CMS has developed performance and quality measures to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries have data necessary to make informed decisions in order to receive the best healthcare and prescription drug coverage available. The plan ratings are available on the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (MPDPF). Beginning in November 2008 for the 2009 open enrollment period, CMS expects to include a patient safety quality measure as part of the Part D plan ratings.

To begin preparing for the issuance of patient safety measures, CMS has entered into a contract with Acumen, LLC to develop, program, test, and validate the patient safety data for performance analysis and reporting. CMS will begin its analysis with one High Risk Medication patient safety quality measure at the contract level.

A Patient Safety Analysis website has been developed. This will be in addition to the Health Plan Management System (HPMS) website where Sponsors can preview their data related to the plan ratings which are displayed on the MPDPF. On the Patient Safety Analysis website, Sponsors will be able to view contract level patient safety reports and information. The reports will include expanded rates and data related to the patient safety plan rating(s) for benchmarking and trending. The website will also facilitate communications between CMS, Part D Sponsors and Acumen, LLC.

Access to the Patient Safety Analysis Website

In order to gain access to the Patient Safety Analysis website, please complete the following steps.

1. CMS' contractor, Acumen, LLC, currently manages multiple websites for Medicare Part D contracts, including this Patient Safety Analysis website. In accordance with Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) regulations, only the Medicare Compliance Officer is authorized to give access to these websites for each contract. To streamline this process, Acumen has developed the User Security website – a web tool that allows Medicare Compliance Officers to manage their users on the Part D websites. As the current Medicare Compliance Officer for your organization, you should already have access to the User Security website through existing work with Acumen. If you

have any questions, please contact Acumen at PartD@AcumenLLC.com or (650) 558-8006.

2. To authorize users for the Patient Safety Analysis website, you, as the Medicare Compliance Officer, must log onto the User Security website (https://partd.programinfo.us/User_Security) to:
 - Submit an Available User Request Form for each user.
 - Authorize access permissions for each user.
 - For security purposes, each contract is allowed up to 5 users.
 - To ensure timely access to the Patient Safety Analysis website, Medicare Compliance Officers must complete the user authorization process by July 28, 2008.
3. Acumen will send authorized Patient Safety Analysis website users:
 - An email with the website user guide
 - A letter with login credentials via USPS

Any general questions related to this Patient Safety Analysis website should be sent via email to Michelle Ketcham, PharmD, MBA at michelle.ketcham@cms.hhs.gov. For technical questions related to the access process, please contact Acumen at PatientSafety@AcumenLLC.com or by phone at (650) 558-8006.