

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
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: MTMP Monitoring Support Data Collection

DATE: October 8, 2008

Medication Therapy Management Programs (MTMPs) remain an important quality improvement initiative for CMS and Medicare beneficiaries. Since the implementation of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit, the MTMP requirements have provided a framework to give Part D sponsors maximum flexibility in developing their MTMPs. In exchange for this flexibility, CMS expects Part D sponsors to analyze and evaluate their MTMPs and make changes to continuously improve their programs. CMS is continuing to monitor and evaluate MTMPs offered by Part D sponsors in an effort to identify and understand attributes of the MTMPs that may be most effective for the Medicare Program.

To monitor Part D sponsors' MTMPs and to ensure that sponsors are evaluating their programs in compliance with the outcome measures stated in their CMS-approved MTMP application, CMS has entered into a contract with Optimal Solutions Group, LLC (Optimal). This contract may also assist CMS in identifying those MTMPs that demonstrate the greatest positive impact on medication use of Medicare beneficiaries or help to identify standardized outcomes that could be measured by all Part D sponsors.

As part of this contract, Optimal will develop a data collection instrument to collect sponsors' MTMP outcomes measurements and will analyze these data. Initially, Optimal will collect data and materials, as a pilot, from a small number of sponsors (approximately ten) with a CMS-approved MTMP in regards to interventions and outcomes to test the evaluation design and collection tool. Following the pre-testing period, Optimal will collect data and materials from all sponsors with a CMS-approved MTMP.

Sponsors with a CMS-approved MTMP are required to submit the information and data requested by Optimal as part of this task order. The data collection will include details related to the type, frequency, and recipient of the MTMP interventions, details related to the MTMP outcomes measured, and the specific MTMP outcomes data and measurements from the sponsors. Failure to comply could result in compliance actions by CMS.

Optimal will collect the outcomes data through a web-based data collection tool. The tool will be password protected, and will only be accessible to users who have been invited to provide the data. Respondents will not be able to view the survey responses of other sponsors. The data files will be hosted on Optimal's password-protected server. Access to the data will be limited to members of the analysis and reporting team.

Optimal will provide the sponsors with the web address of the web-based data collection tool, and an individual respondent ID and password. Sponsors must use the respondent ID and password to log into the data collection tool. By using individual respondent IDs, sponsors will have the opportunity to save their progress and finish their data reporting at a later time.

Sponsors will receive communications directly from Optimal for participation in the pre-testing period and for access to the data collection tool. These communications will come from mtmp@optimalsolutionsgroup.com.

Any general questions related to this MTMP Monitoring Support effort should be sent via email to Michelle Ketcham, PharmD, MBA at michelle.ketcham@cms.hhs.gov.