

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
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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 16, 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). The purpose of the contract is to monitor MTMP data that are already collected by the sponsors. The contract will also help CMS identify standardized outcomes that could be measured by all Part D sponsors or assist in identifying those MTMPs that demonstrate the greatest positive impact on medication use of Medicare beneficiaries.

Sponsors are required to submit MTMP information and data to Optimal as part of this task order including 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. Failure to comply could result in compliance actions by CMS.

In performing this work, Optimal will develop a MTMP monitoring tool to collect these data and information and will analyze these data. Initially, this contractor will collect data and materials, as a pilot, from a small number of sponsors (approximately 10) with a CMS-approved MTMP in regards to interventions and outcomes to test the evaluation design and monitoring tool used for data collection. Following the pre-testing period, Optimal will collect data and materials from all sponsors with a CMS-approved MTMP.

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

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

The web-based monitoring 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.

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 .