

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



CENTER FOR MEDICARE

DATE: March 16, 2012

TO: All Part D Sponsors

FROM: Cynthia G. Tudor, PhD, Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group
Jon Booth, Director, Web and New Media Group

SUBJECT: CY2013 Pricing Data Requirements – Request for Comments

Each spring, CMS releases the Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) Pricing Requirements document for the upcoming contract year. The requirements document describes the pricing data Part D sponsors will submit during regular submission windows which will display on the MPF. The purpose of this memo is to solicit comments and suggestions for the proposed changes to the MPF Pricing Data Requirements for CY2013. Your early feedback will help ensure a common understanding of specific data elements that will foster consistency in the submission of data by all Part D sponsors, and ultimately help improve the prescription drug cost data displayed on the MPF tool. Your initial comments and recommendations will help CMS prepare comprehensive pricing data requirements for CY2013.

Specifically, CMS is soliciting comments on the proposed changes to the pricing data requirements as summarized below:

- PC File:
 - Removing Pharmacy_LA_Drugs, Pharmacy_HI, and Pharmacy_LTC fields. Every year, CMS evaluates the pricing data requirements. At this time, CMS will be removing the Pharmacy_LA_Drugs, Pharmacy_HI, and Pharmacy_LTC indicators as the data are not utilized in the estimated drug cost on the MPF.
- PF File:
 - Removing Unit_Cost and Unit_Cost_90 fields. These will be replaced with a single field, Unit_Cost.
 - Adding a Days_Supply field to indicate if the pricing is for a 30, 60, or 90 day supply. The current pricing data requirements only allow for submission of unit_cost for a 30 day retail supply and unit_cost_90 for a 90 day mail order supply. This change will allow plans to submit pricing for a 60 or 90 day retail supply and a 30 or 60 day mail order supply. By displaying 30/60/90 day supply retail/mail order, beneficiaries will have access to additional pricing information about a plan, such as one that offers a 90 day supply at retail.
 - Adding an Is_Mail field to indicate if the pricing is for a mail order pharmacy.
 - Adding Ceiling_Price and Ceiling_Quantity fields. These fields would indicate the ceiling price and quantity for a specific NDC. Ceiling pricing reflects an agreement

between a plan sponsor and a pharmacy to charge a specific amount for a defined list of medications at a defined fill quantity and applies to every phase of the Part D benefit. The ceiling price is set below the standard plan co-pay for those medications in order to provide an additional cost savings for the beneficiary.

We would appreciate feedback on these changes as we further refine the elements for the MPF CY2013 Pricing Data Requirements. Please submit your feedback regarding these proposed changes to PlanFinderQA@cms.hhs.gov. Please include "CY2013 Pricing Data Requirements Comments" in the subject line and submit by March 26, 2012. We look forward to working with stakeholders and Part D sponsors on the development of the MPF CY2013 Pricing Data Requirements.