

## HPMS E-Mail

**Date:** December 11, 2018

**Subject:** Part D Opioid Policies – Release of CMS Training Materials

Beginning on January 1, 2019, Part D sponsors will implement several new opioid safety edits at the point-of-sale (POS) to help prevent and combat prescription opioid overuse. Sponsors may also implement drug management programs. CMS provided additional guidance in HPMS memos released on October 23, 2018 and November 20, 2018. To ensure these policies are implemented in a manner that minimizes additional burden as well as any unintended impact on beneficiary access, it is critical that prescribers, pharmacists, and beneficiaries understand the new policies and what they can do if impacted.

CMS has developed prescriber, pharmacist and beneficiary training materials, including slide decks and tip sheets, to aid in your efforts to provide outreach and training ahead of the January 1st implementation date. The materials are posted here <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prescription-Drug-Coverage/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/RxUtilization.html>, in separate zip files for each audience. CMS will also be incorporating these training materials into our outreach efforts.

Questions about these training materials may be sent to [PartD\\_OM@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PartD_OM@cms.hhs.gov).