

## HPMS E-Mail

**Date:** October 23, 2018

**Subject:** Revised: Retail Pharmacy Network Access and Preferred Cost-Sharing Pharmacy Access Analysis Results for Q3 CY 2018

TO: Prescription Drug Plans

FROM: Amy Larrick Chavez-Valdez, Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

An error related to the posting of CMS' retail pharmacy access analysis for Quarter 3 CY 2018 has been addressed and corrected. The data is now available in HPMS for review. To access the Part D retail access data in HPMS, select: "Quality and Performance," -> "Performance Metrics," -> "Retail Pharmacy Access Data," -> "Pharmacy Network Access Data," and finally, select the performance period.

CMS will use the analysis to identify sponsors' plans that are not meeting the retail pharmacy access standard (look at data marked as "entire network" only), as well as plans that are 2018 preferred cost sharing pharmacy (PCSP) access outliers (look at the data marked as "PCSP network" only). As indicated in the 2018 Call Letter, a plan is an outlier if it offers access to a PCSP: within 2 miles of fewer than 40% of beneficiaries' residences in urban areas; within 5 miles of fewer than 87% of beneficiaries' residences in suburban areas; or at a rate lower than the current retail pharmacy convenient access standard of access within 15 miles of fewer than 70% of beneficiaries' residences in rural areas. Please note that the PCSP analysis is not applicable to Medicare-Medicaid Plans, or plans that do not offer a preferred cost sharing benefit.

CMS will review the marketing materials for the PCSP outliers to determine if the PCSP outlier marketing disclaimer that is required in Section 50 and Appendix 5 of the 2018 Medicare Marketing Guidelines was used appropriately. Sponsors identified as PCSP access outliers that did not use the PCSP outlier disclaimer may receive compliance or enforcement actions.

Questions or concerns about the data for your plan(s) should be sent to [PartD\\_Monitoring@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PartD_Monitoring@cms.hhs.gov) by November 2, 2018.

