

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



## **CENTER FOR MEDICARE**

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**DATE:** March 28, 2018

**TO:** All Part D Plans

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

**SUBJECT:** Updates to Part D Coordination of Benefits Processes

The purpose of this memo is to inform Medicare Part D sponsors of two forthcoming updates to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) Part D Coordination of Benefits (COB) process.

### ***Updates to the Daily COB File***

CMS will be changing the format of the Daily COB file beginning April 1, 2018. In support of the Medicare Card Project, the Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) will be replaced by the Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) on the file. The file length will remain the same. More information about the Medicare Card Project can be found at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/New-Medicare-Card/index.html>.

### ***2018 Full Replacement Coordination of Benefits (COB) File***

On April 23, 2018 through April 27, each Part D plan will receive a full replacement COB file for all enrollees with other coverage. Due to file size constraints, sponsors with a large number of Part D enrollees with other coverage may receive multiple COB files over the three day interval. These files will contain no special identifiers to distinguish them from the normal daily COB notification files, but they will be identifiable based on the date of receipt and the large size of the files.

The daily COB process will cease while full replacement files are being generated. Therefore, the full replacement files will not include record updates that would normally be included in the daily COB notification files. Any record updates occurring April 23 through April 27 will be sent in the daily notification files following completion of the full replacement file process.

Please submit any questions about this memorandum to [PartD\\_COB@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PartD_COB@cms.hhs.gov).