

Memorandum

**To:** MCBS Users  
**From:** Debra Reed-Gillette  
Director, Division of Survey Management & Analysis  
**Subject:** **Update of Select Variables for Cost and Use, Access to Care files**  
**Date:** January 26, 2016  
**CC:** Project Files

This memo is to make you aware of updates that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has produced for the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS).

**Managed Care Plan Variables**

**Access to Care RICA for years 2009-2013**

**Cost and Use RICA for years 2009-2011**

The categories for the monthly variables (MAFLAG01- MAFLAG12) have been modified to clarify membership in a Medicare managed care plan. The variables will indicate:

- “ “ No Entitlement
- “FFS” Original Medicare/FFS
- “MA ” MA/Other Medicare Capitated Payment Plans

**Extended Race/Ethnicity Variables**

**Access to Care RIC1 for year 2013**

The following extended race and ethnicity variables have been added to the RIC1 file:

HISPORMA = "SP is Mexican/Mex. American/Chicano"  
HISPORPR = "SP is Puerto Rican"  
HISPORCU = "SP is Cuban"  
HISPOROT = "SP is Other Hispanic/Latino/Spanish Origin"  
HISPDTOS = "SP is Other Hisp. Origin (Verbatim)"  
RACEASAI = "SP is Asian Indian"  
RACEASCH = "SP is Chinese"  
RACEASFI = "SP is Filipino"  
RACEASJA = "SP is Japanese"  
RACEASKO = "SP is Korean"  
RACEASVI = "SP is Vietnamese"  
RACEASOT = "SP is Other Asian"  
RACEASOS = "SP is Other Asian (Verbatim)"  
RACEPIHA = "SP is Native Hawaiian"  
RACEPIGU = "SP is Guamanian Chamorro"  
RACEPISA = "SP is Samoan"  
RACEPIOT = "SP is Other Pacific Islander"  
RACEPIOS = "SP is Other Pacific Islander (Verbatim)"

## **Corrected RIC MDS file**

### **Cost and Use 2011 for year 2011**

A replacement RICMDS file for Cost and Use 2011 was created after it was determined that the original file was corrupted.

### **Updated Data Now Available**

**MCBS Users who have a current DUA and had purchased data for the affected years may request the updated version of the MCBS data, free of charge.** Please send requests for updated files to [mcbs@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:mcbs@cms.hhs.gov) with "MCBS Updates (January 26, 2016)" referenced in the subject line and your DUA number and years of files needed listed in the email.

If you have questions related to these issues please contact the CMS Research Assistance Data Center (ResDAC) at [resdac@umn.edu](mailto:resdac@umn.edu) or 1-888-9RESDAC.