

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



CENTER FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Medicare Advantage Organizations, 1876 Cost Plans, and Medicare Prescription Drug Plans

FROM: Gary Bailey, Deputy Director Health Plan Policy and Operations

RE: Evidence of Coverage (EOC) Distribution Date

DATE: January 24, 2006

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is extending the date for Medicare Advantage Organizations, 1876 Cost Plans, and Prescription Drug Plans to mail the annual Evidence of Coverage documents to beneficiaries. The final date for organizations to mail the 2006 Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Low Income Subsidy Rider (LIS) to existing members and enrollees with a January 1, 2006 effective date is now February 15, 2006. All subsequent 2006 enrollees must receive their EOCs and LIS riders within 30 days of their enrollment effective date. Plans may send the EOC and LIS rider in the same mailing or separately.

This extension will allow organizations additional time to obtain approval of all Evidence of Coverage documents (including LIS riders) and complete necessary printing activities. Thank you for your cooperation in making the marketing material review process successful.