

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending September 22, 2006

Title: Summary of Benefits

Date: 9/15/06

Summary: The Plan Benefit Package does not include the correct language(s) in the Summary of Benefits (SB) or Medicare Personal Plan Finder sentences, indicating that the maximum plan benefit coverage amount applies to only non-Medicare covered services. As a result several organizations have been identified as generating the incorrect language in the SB for the Maximum Benefit Coverage Amount for non-Medicare covered services. Organizations will be required to make a hard copy change to reflect the appropriate language(s). The SB hard copy change will be considered global and will not require review by the CMS Central Office. The Medicare Personal Plan Finder will also be updated to include an "Important Note" for those organizations that have been identified as potentially generating the incorrect language.

Title: Update to Acceptable Characters in the HPMS MA and PDP Marketing Modules

Date: 9/15/06

Summary: Due to CMS IT system standards, the HPMS MA and PDP Marketing Modules can no longer accept the following characters in any field within the modules: "<", ">", ";", and "&".

Title: 2007 Medicare Part B Premium and Deductibles

Date: 9/15/06

Summary: CMS has released the 2007 standard monthly Medicare Part B premium of \$93.50 and Part B deductible of \$131.00. All Medicare premium and deductible information must be included in the Summary of Benefits (SB).

Title: Draft PDP Evidence of Coverage and LIS Rider for Public Comment

Date: 9/20/06

Summary: CMS is releasing its Draft Evidence of Coverage and Limited Income Subsidy (LIS) Rider for a one week public comment period. Comments on the Draft EOC and LIS Rider must be received by CMS no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, September 26, 2006. Comments must be submitted via e-mail to pdp.marketing.documents@cms.hhs.gov, with "CY 07 PDP EOC/LIS Rider Comments" in the subject line of the email.

Title: Issuance of Draft 2007 Model Medicare Advantage Evidence of Coverage

Date: 9/20/06

Summary: The Evidence's of Coverage (EOC) are intended for use by all Medicare Advantage (MA) Organizations, Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans (MA-PD), and 1876 Cost Plans to explain how the plan works, covered benefits and related cost-sharing responsibilities. Model EOC are being provided for industry review and comment prior to CMS releasing final versions.

Title: Special TRR Communication – Week-at-a-Glance 9/25 – 9/29

Date: 9/21/06

Summary: WAAG for the week of September 25th, 2006.

This communication to the plans will list the schedule CBC expects to follow on any Special TRR that is distributed during the week of September 25, 2006.

Title: Clarification Regarding September 25-26 Plan Preview for Medicare Options Compare (formerly the Medicare Personal Plan Finder)

Date: 9/21/06

Summary: This memorandum provides clarification on the September 25-26 Medicare Options Compare (MOC) plan preview. It is based on inquiries we received during the last preview period. The 2007 MOC is scheduled to go live on Medicare.gov on October 12, 2006.

Title: Important Schedule Changes for Upcoming 2006 and 2007 Drug Pricing Data Submissions

Date: 9/22/06

Summary: In order to ensure that Sponsors have ample time to resolve data errors and avoid suppression for the October 12, 2006 launch of the MPDPF web tool, we are now requiring that all Part D Sponsors submit a final set of 2007 plan year pricing and pharmacy network data **on September 27, 2006** (excluding Employer and PACE plans). This additional submission gives Sponsors one last opportunity to perform quality checks on their data, prior to the October 4, 2006 submission that will be utilized for public display. If CMS identifies data errors in the October 4, 2006 submission, there will be no mechanism for plans to correct their files and those plans will have their data suppressed from the MPDPF for two weeks.

Title: Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS)

Date: 9/22/06

Summary: A memo was released regarding the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) 2003-2005 Cohort 6 Performance Measurement data.

Title: Reassignment of LIS-eligible PDP members

Date: 9/22/06

Summary: A memo was released regarding the reassignment of LIS-eligible PDP members effective January 1, 2007.