

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending September 15, 2006

Title: Premium Withhold Issue Scripts and Frequently Asked Questions

Date: 9/8/06

Summary: CMS has developed customer service scripts and documented responses to frequently asked questions for plans to assist beneficiaries with problems relating to the various premium withhold issues. You may share these documents with your customer service representatives, partners, and agents to ensure the dissemination of accurate information regarding the premium withhold issues.

Title: IMPORTANT: Completion of HPMS Contract Management Data Entry

Date: 9/9/06

Summary: CMS advises that your organization verify that all required plan data in the HPMS Contract Management Module is complete.

Title: Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug System (MARx) September Payment – INFORMATION

Date: 9/11/06

Summary: The correspondence provides information related to the plan's September payment and related MARx processing issues.

Title: Plan Preview Dates for 2007 Medicare Personal Plan Finder

Date: 9/11/06

Summary: This memorandum will give you a timeline and instructions for previewing plan benefit and cost sharing data and out-of-pocket estimates for display in the 2007 Medicare Personal Plan Finder (MPPF) on Medicare.gov. All Medicare Advantage Plans and any Medicare Cost Plans that filed a 2007 Plan Benefit Package should preview their plan data for the MPPF to ensure that the plan's 2007 data will display accurately on Medicare.gov. The 2007 MPPF is scheduled to go live on Medicare.gov on October 12, 2006.

Title: Plan Preview Dates for 2007 Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder

Date: 9/11/06

Summary: This memo provides a timeline and instructions for previewing preview plan finder cost data for display in the 2007 Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (MPDPF) on Medicare.gov. All sponsors that filed a 2007 Prescription Drug Benefit Package should preview their plan data for the MPDPF to ensure that your plan's 2007 data will display accurately on Medicare.gov. The 2007 MPDPF is scheduled to go live on Medicare.gov on October 12, 2006.

Title: Medicare Part D Manual – Draft of Chapter 6

Date: 9/12/06

Summary: Today we are releasing for comment the draft of Chapter 6 of the Medicare Part D Manual. Chapter 6 consolidates previous guidance, questions and answers, and

HPMS memos. Comments on the draft of Chapter 6 must be received by CMS no later than 5:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, September 26, 2006.

Title: Special TRR Communication – Week-at-a-Glance September 11th through September 15th

Date: 9/12/06

Summary: The following describes the Special TRR that CMS is preparing to send to Plans during the week of September, 2006. Only plans with transactions/beneficiaries that are impacted by the specific conditions of each cleanup will receive a file.

Title: Invitation to Provide Feedback on the CY 1007 Bid Submission Process in HPMS and the CY 2007 Bid Pricing (Actuarial) Requirements

Date: 9/13/06

Summary: CMS invites all Medicare Advantage (MA), demonstration, 1876 cost, and Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) organizations to provide feedback on the Contract Year (CY) 2007 bid submission process in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). CMS is also soliciting feedback on the CY 2007 actuarial bid requirements.

Title: 2007 MA and PDP enrollment and disenrollment guidance - - UPDATES

Date: 9/13/06

Summary: Release of New Enrollment Guidance -- CMS has posted updated enrollment guidance and exhibits for MA plans and PDPs on the CMS website. This HPMS message provides the URLs for the new guidance.

Title: Marketing Reminders for the Annual Enrollment Season

Date: 9/13/06

Summary: The attached memorandum from David Lewis, Acting Director, Medicare Advantage Group and Cynthia Tudor, Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group encourages organizations to take full advantage of the marketing review processes that are in place to ensure a quick review of materials, especially during the enrollment season. The memo also provides instructions for entering expedited marketing review process materials in HPMS.

Title: Revisions to Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Model Annual Notice of Change (ANOC)

Date: 9/13/06

Summary: CMS recently revised its two Model PDP ANOCs to accommodate a recent change in enrollment policy related to the reassignment of Low-Income Subsidy recipients. CMS realizes that there are organizations that have already submitted both model and non-model ANOCs and have received approval. Organizations **will not** be required to re-submit already approved or currently submitted ANOCs. However, effective immediately, for all new ANOC submissions, organizations must submit ANOC with the correction noted above.

Title: ICF/MR and IMD Pharmacy Network Contracting

Date: 9/13/06

Summary: Through the initial application process to become a Part D sponsor, your organization was successful in establishing a long-term care (LTC) pharmacy network that met the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regulatory requirements. CMS wants to remind all Part D plan sponsors of their continued contractual obligation to have a LTC pharmacy network that provides convenient access for beneficiaries living in LTC facilities in their service area, as provided in 42 CFR 423.120(a)(5).

Title: Expectations for Customer Service Call Handling

Date: 9/14/06

Summary: Part D Sponsors have made substantial progress over the past three months in reducing the number of complaints voiced by beneficiaries to 1-800-MEDICARE. However, 1-800 MEDICARE continues to handle a large number of calls. Based on our analyses of these calls, we believe that many of the calls referred to 1-800-MEDICARE can be resolved by the Part D Sponsor. In an effort to relieve the backlog of beneficiary complaints and to assist Part D Sponsors in resolving these complaints, we are providing specific information on these call areas.

Title: New Generic Additions to the Formulary Reference NDC File for CY2007 Formulary Submissions

Date: 9/14/06

Summary: CMS recognizes that there have been multiple new drugs approved and marketed since the July 28, 2006 update of the Formulary Reference NDC File, and that many Part D Plan Sponsors may wish to update their HPMS formulary files to incorporate these new products. As such, there will be a brief open period to allow for these formulary updates. The formulary submission gates will be open for all approved formularies from September 16, 2006 through September 19, 2006.

Title: Complaints Tracking Module

Date: 9/14/06

Summary: Memorandum from CMS to PACE organizations reminding them of the need to use the Complaints Tracking Module and of how to gain access to the CTM.

Title: Memo re: the Summary of Benefits

Date: 9/15/06

Summary: Memorandum explaining required changes to the Summary of Benefits.

Title: Memo re: the 2007 Medicare Part B premium and deductibles

Date: 9/15/06

Summary: Memorandum notifying organizations to use the recently released 2007 Medicare premiums and deductibles in their Summary of Benefits.

Title: Memo re: an update to the acceptable characters in the HPMS MA and PDP marketing modules.

Date: 9/15/06

Summary: Due to new CMS IT systems standards, the HPMS MA and PDP Marketing modules can no longer accept certain characters in any fields of the modules.