



DATE: September 13, 2006

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

FROM: Cynthia E. Moreno, Director, Plan Oversight & Accountability Group, Center for Beneficiary Choices
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SUBJECT: Invitation to Provide Feedback on the CY 2007 Bid Submission Process in HPMS and the CY 2007 Bid Pricing (Actuarial) Requirements

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. Specifically, we are seeking comments and suggestions regarding:

- the Plan Benefit Package/Summary of Benefits (PBP/SB) software,
- the HPMS Bid Submission module, which includes functions such as plan creation, bid upload, plan and formulary crosswalks, substantiation and certification uploads, and the new service area verification functionality,
- the MA Bid Pricing Tool (BPT),
- the Prescription Drug (PD) Bid Pricing Tool (BPT),
- CMS instructions for the completion of the BPTs,
- actuarial certifications, documentation requirements, and any other actuarial issues related to the bidding process, and
- HPMS bid and benefit reports.

CMS has scheduled the feedback period to take place from Wednesday, September 20, 2006 through Wednesday, October 18, 2006. As with prior years, an online Internet application has been developed to support the collection of your comments and suggestions.

To provide comments on the CY 2007 Bid Process, including the PBP and other bid-related tools, please visit:

http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/bid2007_lessons_learned/bid2007_lessons_start.asp

To provide comments on the BPT, please visit:

http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/bpt2007_lessons_learned/bpt2007_lessons_start.asp

If you are unable to use the online application, we will also accept comment through the HPMS Help Desk via hpmstest@cms.hhs.gov. Please put "Feedback on CY 2007" in the subject line.

We strongly encourage you to take this opportunity to provide your feedback. Your comments and suggestions will be invaluable as we work toward making improvements for the CY 2008 bid-related software and processes.

Thank you for your participation.