DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Beneficiary Choices
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PLAN OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP

DATE: December 6, 2006

TO: All Medicare Advantage, Cost, Demo, PACE, and Prescription Drug Plan
         Organizations

FROM: Cynthia E. Moreno, Director

SUBJECT: ACTION - Important Health Plan Management System (HPMS)
         Connectivity Notification

CMS will be moving its web hosting environment from AT&T to the new Enterprise
Data Center (EDC) managed by EDS. As part of this effort, HPMS is currently
scheduled to be relocated to the EDC on **Monday, January 8, 2007**.

System downtime will be required to perform the final cutover to the EDC. CMS is
working to minimize the downtime in order to lessen the impact on the business
processes supported by HPMS. At this time, we anticipate that the system will be
unavailable beginning close of business on Thursday, January 4 until the morning of
Monday, January 8. CMS will communicate the final production cutover plan to
organizations in a future memorandum.

Once HPMS has been relocated to the EDC, plan users will continue to have two options
for accessing the system:

- Internet access via a Secure Socket Layer Virtual Private Network (SSL VPN); or

- Medicare Data Communications Network (MDCN) access using either a T-1
  lease line or dial-up account with AT&T.

The following chart provides the HPMS website address for each access path at the EDC:

HPMS Access Path	Website Address at EDC
Internet Access via the SSL VPN	https://gateway.cms.hhs.gov
MDCN Access using a T-1 or dial-up account with AT&T	https://32.90.191.19

Organizations connecting to HPMS via the MDCN network must take the following steps to accommodate this change:

- Ensure that your local network is updated to permit traffic from the new HPMS IP address; and

- Allow your network to send traffic to the new HPMS IP address.

CMS has worked with AT&T and EDS to update the existing plan accounts on the MDCN network to reflect the upcoming change to the HPMS IP address. To make an inquiry regarding the status of your organization's MDCN account, please contact the AT&T Tier Two Support Group at 1-888-212-6036. Please reference your organization's AT&T MDCN account number when contacting this support line.

CMS strongly recommends that organizations test their connectivity to the new site as soon as possible.

- MDCN users must test with the new https://32.90.191.19 IP address.

- Internet users must test with https://testgateway.cms.hhs.gov.

NOTE: Please remember that https://gateway.cms.hhs.gov will continue to go to the current HPMS production site at AT&T until the final cutover.

It is critical that all organizations ensure that your network administrators are aware of this planned migration and are taking the necessary steps to ensure your uninterrupted service to HPMS.

Please direct any questions regarding this migration effort to Don Freeburger at either don.freeburger@cms.hhs.gov or 410-786-4586. Thank you.