

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



CENTER FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

DATE: December 3, 2007

TO: All Medicare Advantage and MA-PD Plans

FROM: Abby L. Block
Director, Center for Beneficiary Choices

SUBJECT: Notification of CMS Beneficiary Communication Related to Part B Reduction Benefit Error

CMS recently discovered a synchronization problem with SSA systems related to the Part B reduction benefit. Some beneficiaries who originally signed up for a Part B reduction plan and subsequently changed plans are still erroneously receiving the Part B reduction benefit. This issue affects beneficiaries from plan years 2006 and 2007. Affected beneficiaries will receive a letter from CMS on or after December 1, 2007 (see attached copy of the beneficiary letter). The letter directs beneficiaries to contact 1-800-MEDICARE if the beneficiary has a question. If your plan receives a call from a beneficiary who has received this letter, please direct the beneficiary to call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Plan payment was not affected by this error.