

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



**Medicare Plan Payment Group**

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**DATE:**        **Hgdwt { '5, 2011**

**TO:**            All Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plan, Cost, PACE, and Demonstration Organizations Systems Staff

**FROM:**        Cheri Rice /s/  
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**SUBJECT:    Announcement of April 2011 Software Release**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) continues to implement software improvements to the enrollment and payment systems that support the Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug (MAPD) programs. This letter provides detailed information regarding the planned release of systems changes scheduled for April 17, 2011. This release focuses on improving the efficiency of our systems with improvements that will also affect plan processing.

The changes for the April 2011 release are categorized as follows and may require plan action:

1. [\*\*MARx Redesign and Modernization\*\*](#)
2. [\*\*Create Effective Dates for 4Rx Data Within A Single Enrollment Period\*\*](#)
3. [\*\*MARx Special Batch Approval Utility\*\*](#)

## **1. MARx Redesign and Modernization**

CMS provided advanced notification regarding the planned release of systems changes related to the redesign and modernization of MARx in a separate special memorandum dated May 26, 2010. These changes are currently scheduled for implementation in April 2011. CMS will provide additional detailed information in the next several weeks that Plans will require for implementation in April 2011.

The MARx Redesign and Modernization Handbook was provided on December 2, 2010 and can be found at the referenced link below:

Web-link: [MARx Redesign and Modernization Handbook, December 2, 2010 \[PDF, 730KB\]](#)

## **2. Create Effective Dates for 4Rx Data Within A Single Enrollment Period**

In CMS systems, beneficiary Part D 4Rx (RxBIN, RxPCN, RxGRP, and RxID) data are tied to a Part D enrollment occurrence. The 4Rx data is required for all Part D enrollments and are submitted either in the enrollment transaction for Plan-submitted enrollments or on a Plan-submitted 72 transaction for all other types of enrollment. However, a change in a beneficiary's 4Rx data may be required for reasons other than an enrollment change; e.g., when a Part D sponsor changes its Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM). In these instances in our current system, once the Plan-submitted 72 transaction with the Part D 4Rx data change is processed, the new Part D 4Rx data replaces the existing 4Rx for the entire enrollment occurrence. If the 72 transaction is processed prior to the effective date of the change, any transactions that depend upon the 4Rx data for routing such as Part D claims, eligibility (E1) queries for the current or a past month, and automated True Out-of-Pocket (TrOOP) balance transfer (ATBT) transactions, will prematurely reflect the new Part D 4Rx data. Similarly, after the effective date of the change, transactions pertaining to the period of the enrollment prior to the Part D 4Rx change (again, E1 queries, or ATBT transactions) will erroneously reflect the new 4Rx data. This change to create effective dates for 4Rx data within a single enrollment period will allow plans to identify and use the Part D 4Rx data effective at a specific point in time when multiple occurrences of 4Rx data within a single enrollment period are needed. This change will require that a start date must be captured for each 4Rx data occurrence.

## **3. MARx Special Batch Approval Utility**

In coordination with the MARx System Redesign and Modernization project, CMS has developed functionality within the MARx application that will provide plans with the ability to submit an electronic request via the MARx User Interface for special batch-file processing (such as retro-files). Detailed documentation for this new utility will be provided in the MARx R&M User Interface guidance document scheduled for release in early Spring.

**Special note regarding IRMAA Part D** - At this time CMS will **not** be implementing the disenrollment from a Part D Plan for failure to pay the IRMAA Part D portion of premium. Information will be provided in advance when an implementation date is known.

Plans are encouraged to contact the MAPD Help Desk for any issues encountered during the systems update process. Please direct any questions or concerns to the MAPD Help Desk at 1-800-927-8069 or email at [mapdhelp@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:mapdhelp@cms.hhs.gov).