

**ADDENDUM TO MEDICARE MANAGED CARE CONTRACT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 1860D-1 THROUGH 1860D-43 OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT FOR THE OPERATION OF A VOLUNTARY MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (hereinafter referred to as “CMS”) and <<CONTRACT\_NAME>>, a Medicare managed care organization (hereinafter referred to as “MA-PD Sponsor”) agree to amend the contract <<CONTRACT\_ID>> governing MA-PD Sponsor’s operation of a Part C plan described in § 1851(a)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) or a Medicare cost plan to include this addendum under which MA-PD Sponsor shall operate a Voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Plan pursuant to §§ 1860D-1 through 1860D-43 (with the exception of §§ 1860D-22(a) and 1860D-31) of the Act.

This addendum is made pursuant to Subpart L of 42 CFR Part 417 (in the case of cost plan sponsors offering a Part D benefit) and Subpart K of 42 CFR Part 422 (in the case of an MA-PD Sponsor offering a Part C plan).

NOTE: For purposes of this addendum, unless otherwise noted, reference to an “MA-PD Sponsor” or “MA-PD Plan” is deemed to include a cost plan sponsor or an MA private fee-for-service contractor offering a Part D benefit.

**Article I**  
**Voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Plan**

- A. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to operate one or more Medicare Voluntary Prescription Drug Plans as described in its application and related materials submitted to CMS for Medicare approval, including but not limited to all the attestations contained therein, and in compliance with the provisions of this addendum, which incorporates in its entirety the *Solicitation for Applications for Medicare Prescription Drug Plan 2025 Contracts*, released on January 9, 2024 (hereinafter collectively referred to as “the Addendum”). MA-PD Sponsor also agrees to operate in accordance with §§ 1860D-1 through 1860D-43 (with the exception of §§ 1860D-22(a) and 1860D-31) of the Act, the regulations at 42 CFR Part 423 (with the exception of Subparts Q, R, and S), and the applicable solicitation identified above, as well as all other applicable Federal statutes, regulations, and policies outlined in guidance, such as the Medicare Managed Care Manual, the Medicare Communications and Marketing Guidelines, Final CY 2025 Part D Redesign Program Instructions, Medicare Part D Manufacturer Discount Program Final Guidance, Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Final Guidance, CMS Participant Guides, Health Plan Management System memos, Rate Announcement, and trainings. This Addendum is deemed to incorporate any changes that are required by statute to be implemented during the term of this contract and any regulations implementing or interpreting such statutory provisions.
- B. CMS agrees to perform its obligations to MA-PD Sponsor consistent with §§ 1860D-1 through 1860D-43 (with the exception of §§ 1860D-22(a) and 1860D-31) of the Act, the regulations at 42 CFR Part 423 (with the exception of Subparts Q, R, and S), and the applicable solicitation, as well as all other applicable Federal statutes, regulations, and policies outlined in guidance, such as the Medicare Managed Care Manual, the Medicare Communications and Marketing Guidelines, Final CY 2025 Part D Redesign Program Instructions, Medicare Part D Manufacturer Discount Program Final Guidance, Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Final Guidance, CMS Participant Guides, Health Plan Management System memos, Rate Announcement, and trainings.
- C. CMS agrees that it will not implement, other than at the beginning of a calendar year, regulations under 42 CFR Part 423 that impose new, significant regulatory requirements on MA-PD Sponsor. This provision does not apply to new requirements mandated by statute. **[42 CFR § 423.516]**
- D. If MA-PD Sponsor had an MA-PD Addendum with CMS for Contract Year 2024 under the contract ID number designated above, this document is considered a renewal of the existing addendum. While the terms of this document supersede the terms of the 2024 addendum, the parties’ execution of this contract does not extinguish or interrupt any pending obligations or actions that may have arisen under the 2024 or prior year addendums.
- E. This Addendum is in no way intended to supersede or modify 42 CFR Parts 417, 422, or 423. Failure to reference a regulatory requirement in this Addendum does not affect the applicability of such requirements to MA-PD Sponsor and CMS.

**Article II**  
**Functions to be Performed by MA-PD Sponsor**

**A. ENROLLMENT**

1. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to enroll in its MA-PD plan only Part D-eligible beneficiaries, as they are defined in 42 CFR § 423.30(a) and who have elected to enroll in MA-PD Sponsor's Part C or § 1876 benefit.
2. If MA-PD Sponsor is a cost plan sponsor, MA-PD Sponsor acknowledges that its § 1876 plan enrollees are not required to elect enrollment in its Part D plan.

**B. PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT**

1. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to provide the required prescription drug coverage as defined under 42 CFR § 423.100 and, to the extent applicable, supplemental benefits as defined in 42 CFR § 423.100 and in accordance with Subpart C of 42 CFR Part 423. MA-PD Sponsor also agrees to provide Part D benefits as described in MA-PD Sponsor's Part D bid(s) approved each year by CMS (and in the Medicare Advantage Plan Attestation of Benefit Plan, included in the contract materials).
2. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to calculate and collect beneficiary Part D premiums in accordance with 42 CFR §§ 423.286 and 423.293. MA-PD Sponsor also agrees to make a reasonable effort to identify all amounts incorrectly collected and to pay any other amounts due in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.294.
3. If MA-PD Sponsor is a cost plan sponsor, it acknowledges that its Part D benefit is offered as an optional supplemental service in accordance with 42 CFR § 417.440(b)(2)(ii).
4. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to maintain administrative and management capabilities sufficient for the organization to organize, implement, and control the financial, communication, benefit administration, and quality assurance activities related to the delivery of Part D services as required by 42 CFR § 423.505(b)(25).
5. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to provide applicable beneficiaries manufacturer discounts on applicable drugs both in the initial and catastrophic coverage phases of the Part D benefit in accordance with the requirements of § 1860D-14C of the Act and all applicable guidance, including the Medicare Part D Manufacturer Discount Program Final Guidance.
6. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to provide all Part D enrollees with the option to participate in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan in accordance with the requirements of § 1860D-2(b)(2)(E) of the Act and all applicable guidance, including the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan: Final Part One Guidance on Select Topics, Implementation of Section 1860D-2 of the Social Security Act for 2025, and Response to Relevant Comments and

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan: Final Part Two Guidance on Select Topics, Implementation of Section 1860D-2 of the Social Security Act for 2025, and Response to Relevant Comments.

C. DISSEMINATION OF PLAN INFORMATION

1. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to provide the information required in 42 CFR § 423.48.
2. MA-PD Sponsor acknowledges that CMS releases to the public the following data, consistent with 42 CFR Part 423 Subpart K:
  - (a) Summary reconciled Part D payment data after the reconciliation of Part D payments, as provided in 42 CFR § 423.505(o)(1); and
  - (b) Part D Medical Loss Ratio data for the contract year, as described at 42 CFR § 423.2490.
3. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to disclose information related to Part D benefits to beneficiaries in the manner and the form specified by CMS under 42 CFR § 423.128 and 42 CFR Part 423 Subpart V.

D. QUALITY ASSURANCE/UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT

1. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to operate quality assurance, drug utilization management, drug management, and medication therapy management programs, and to support electronic prescribing, in accordance with Subpart D of 42 CFR Part 423.
2. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to address and resolve complaints received by CMS against the MA-PD Sponsor through the CMS complaint tracking system as required in 42 CFR § 423.505(b)(22).
3. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to maintain a Part D summary plan rating score of at least 3 stars as required by 42 CFR § 423.505(b)(26).
4. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to pass an essential operations test prior to the start of the benefit year. This provision only applies to new sponsors that have not previously entered into a Part D contract with CMS and neither it, nor another subsidiary of the applicant's parent organization, is offering Part D benefits during the current year. **[42 CFR § 423.505(b)(27)]**

E. APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES

MA-PD Sponsor agrees to comply with all requirements in Subpart M of 42 CFR Part 423 governing coverage determinations, grievances and appeals, and formulary exceptions, and the applicable provisions of Subpart U in connection with its coverage of Part D benefits. MA-PD Sponsor acknowledges that these requirements are separate and distinct from the

appeals and grievances requirements applicable to MA-PD Sponsor in connection with its Part C or cost plan benefits.

#### F. PAYMENT TO MA-PD SPONSOR

MA-PD Sponsor and CMS agree that payment for Part D services under this Addendum is governed by the rules in Subpart G of 42 CFR Part 423.

#### G. BID SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

If MA-PD Sponsor intends to participate in the Part D program for the next program year, MA-PD Sponsor agrees to submit the next year's Part D bid, including all required information on premiums, benefits, and cost-sharing, by the applicable due date, as provided in Subpart F of 42 CFR Part 423 so that CMS and MA-PD Sponsor may conduct negotiations regarding the terms and conditions of the proposed bid and benefit plan renewal. MA-PD Sponsor acknowledges that failure to submit a timely bid under this section may affect the sponsor's ability to offer a Part C plan, pursuant to the provisions of 42 CFR § 422.4(c).

#### H. COORDINATION WITH OTHER PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

1. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to comply with the coordination requirements with State Pharmacy Assistance Programs (SPAPs) and plans that provide other prescription drug coverage as described in Subpart J of 42 CFR Part 423.
2. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to comply with Medicare Secondary Payer procedures as stated in 42 CFR § 423.462.

#### I. SERVICE AREA AND PHARMACY ACCESS

1. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to provide Part D benefits in the service area for which it has been approved by CMS to offer Part C or cost plan benefits utilizing a pharmacy network and formulary approved by CMS that meet the requirements of 42 CFR § 423.120.
2. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to provide Part D benefits through out-of-network pharmacies according to 42 CFR § 423.124.
3. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to provide benefits by means of point-of-service systems to adjudicate prescription drug claims in a timely and efficient manner in compliance with CMS standards, except when necessary to provide access in underserved areas, I/T/U pharmacies (as defined in 42 CFR § 423.100), and long-term care pharmacies (as defined in 42 CFR § 423.100) according to 42 CFR § 423.505(b)(17).
4. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to contract with any pharmacy that meets MA-PD Sponsor's reasonable and relevant standard terms and conditions according to 42 CFR § 423.505(b)(18), including making standard contracts available on request in accordance with the timelines specified in the regulation.

(a) If MA-PD Sponsor has demonstrated that it historically fills 98% or more of its enrollees' prescriptions at pharmacies owned and operated by MA-PD Sponsor (or presents compelling circumstances that prevent the sponsor from meeting the 98% standard or demonstrates that its Part D plan design will enable the sponsor to meet the 98% standard during the contract year), this provision does not apply to MA-PD Sponsor's plan. **[42 CFR § 423.120(a)(7)(i)]**

(b) The provisions of 42 CFR § 423.120(a) concerning the retail pharmacy access standard do not apply to MA-PD Sponsor if the Sponsor has demonstrated to CMS that it historically fills more than 50% of its enrollees' prescriptions at pharmacies owned and operated by MA-PD Sponsor. MA-PD Sponsors excused from meeting the standard are required to demonstrate retail pharmacy access that meets the requirements of 42 CFR § 422.112 for a Part C contractor and 42 CFR § 417.416(e) for a cost plan contractor. **[42 CFR § 423.120(a)(7)(i)]**

#### J. EFFECTIVE COMPLIANCE PROGRAM/PROGRAM INTEGRITY

MA-PD Sponsor agrees to adopt and implement an effective compliance program that applies to its Part D-related operations, consistent with 42 CFR § 423.504(b)(4)(vi).

#### K. LOW-INCOME SUBSIDY

MA-PD Sponsor agrees that it will participate in the administration of subsidies for low-income subsidy eligible individuals according to Subpart P of 42 CFR Part 423.

#### L. BENEFICIARY FINANCIAL PROTECTIONS

MA-PD Sponsor agrees to afford its enrollees protection from liability for payment of fees that are the obligation of MA-PD Sponsor in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.505(g).

#### M. RELATIONSHIP WITH FIRST TIER, DOWNSTREAM, AND RELATED ENTITIES

1. MA-PD Sponsor agrees that it maintains ultimate responsibility for adhering to and otherwise fully complying with all terms and conditions of this Addendum. **[42 CFR § 423.505(i)]**
2. MA-PD Sponsor shall ensure that any contracts or agreements with first tier, downstream, and related entities performing functions on MA-PD Sponsor's behalf related to the operation of the Part D benefit are in compliance with 42 CFR § 423.505(i).

#### N. CERTIFICATION OF DATA THAT DETERMINE PAYMENT

MA-PD Sponsor must provide certifications in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.505(k).

#### O. MA-PD SPONSOR REIMBURSEMENT TO PHARMACIES **[42 CFR §§ 423.505(b)(21)]**

**and 423.520]**

1. If MA-PD Sponsor uses a standard for reimbursement of pharmacies based on the cost of a drug, MA-PD Sponsor will update such standard not less frequently than once every 7 days, beginning with an initial update on January 1 of each year, to accurately reflect the market price of the drug.
2. If the source for any prescription drug pricing standard is not publicly available, MA-PD Sponsor will disclose all individual drug prices to be updated to the applicable pharmacies in advance for their use for the reimbursement of claims.
3. MA-PD Sponsor will issue, mail, or otherwise transmit payment with respect to all claims submitted by pharmacies (other than pharmacies that dispense drugs by mail order only, or are located in, or contract with, a long-term care facility) within 14 days of receipt of an electronically submitted claim or within 30 days of receipt of a claim submitted otherwise.
4. MA-PD Sponsor must ensure that a pharmacy located in, or having a contract with, a long-term care facility will have not less than 30 days (but not more than 90 days) to submit claims to MA-PD Sponsor for reimbursement.

### **Article III Record Retention and Reporting Requirements**

#### **A. RECORD MAINTENANCE AND ACCESS**

MA-PD Sponsor agrees to maintain records and provide access in accordance with 42 CFR §§ 423.505(b)(10) and 423.505(i)(2).

#### **B. GENERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

MA-PD Sponsor agrees to submit information to CMS according to 42 CFR §§ 423.505(f) and 423.514, and the applicable Final Medicare Part D Reporting Guidance.

#### **C. CMS LICENSE FOR USE OF PLAN FORMULARY**

MA-PD Sponsor agrees to submit to CMS each plan's formulary information, including any changes to its formularies, and hereby grants to the Government, and any person or entity who might receive the formulary from the Government, a non-exclusive license to use all or any portion of the formulary for any purpose related to the administration of the Part D program, including without limitation publicly distributing, displaying, publishing or reconfiguration of the information in any medium, including www.medicare.gov, and by any electronic, print or other means of distribution.

### **Article IV HIPAA Provisions**

- A. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to comply with the confidentiality and enrollee record accuracy requirements specified in 42 CFR § 423.136.
- B. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to enter into a business associate agreement with the entity with which CMS has contracted to track Medicare beneficiaries' true out-of-pocket costs.

**Article V**  
**Addendum Term and Renewal**

A. TERM OF ADDENDUM

This Addendum is effective from the date of CMS's authorized representative's signature through December 31, 2025. This Addendum shall be renewable for successive one-year periods thereafter according to 42 CFR § 423.506.

B. QUALIFICATION TO RENEW ADDENDUM

1. In accordance with 42 CFR § 423.507, MA-PD Sponsor will be determined qualified to renew this Addendum annually only if MA-PD Sponsor has not provided CMS with a notice of intention not to renew in accordance with Article VI of this Addendum.
2. Although MA-PD Sponsor may be determined qualified to renew its addendum under this Article, if MA-PD Sponsor and CMS cannot reach agreement on the Part D bid under Subpart F of 42 CFR Part 423 and CMS declines to accept the bid pursuant to 42 CFR § 423.265(b)(4), no renewal takes place, and, in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.502(d)(2), the failure to reach agreement is not subject to the appeals provisions in Subpart N of 42 CFR Parts 422 or 423. (Refer to Article X for consequences of non-renewal on the Part C contract and the ability to enter into a Part C contract.)

**Article VI**  
**Nonrenewal of Addendum by MA-PD Sponsor**

- A. MA-PD Sponsor may non-renew this Addendum in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.507(a).
- B. If MA-PD Sponsor non-renews this Addendum under this Article, CMS cannot enter into a Part D addendum with MA-PD Sponsor or with an organization whose covered persons, as defined in 42 CFR § 423.507(a)(4), also served as covered persons for the nonrenewing MA-PD Sponsor for 2 years in the PDP region or regions served by the contract unless there are circumstances that warrant special consideration, as determined by CMS.

**Article VII**  
**Modification or Termination of Addendum by Mutual Consent**

This Addendum may be modified or terminated at any time by written mutual consent in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.508. (Refer to Article X for consequences of non-renewal on the Part C contract and the ability to enter into a Part C contract.)

**Article VIII**  
**Termination of Addendum by CMS**

CMS may terminate this Addendum in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.509. (Refer to Article X for consequences of non-renewal on the Part C contract and the ability to enter into a Part C contract.)

**Article IX**  
**Termination of Addendum by MA-PD Sponsor**

- A. MA-PD Sponsor may terminate this Addendum only in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.510.
- B. CMS will not enter into a new Part D addendum with an MA-PD Sponsor that has terminated its addendum or with an organization whose covered persons, as defined in 42 CFR § 423.510(e)(2), also served as covered persons for the terminating sponsor within the preceding 2 years unless there are circumstances that warrant special consideration, as determined by CMS.
- C. If this Addendum is terminated under section A of this Article, MA-PD Sponsor must ensure the timely transfer of any data or files. (Refer to Article X for consequences of non-renewal on the Part C contract and the ability to enter into a Part C contract.)

**Article X**  
**Relationship between Addendum and Part C Contract or 1876 Cost Contract**

- A. MA-PD Sponsor acknowledges that, if it is a Medicare Part C contractor, the termination or nonrenewal of this Addendum by either party may require CMS to terminate or non-renew MA-PD Sponsor's Part C contract in the event that such non-renewal or termination prevents MA-PD Sponsor from meeting the requirements of 42 CFR § 422.4(c), in which case MA-PD Sponsor must provide the notices specified in this contract, as well as the notices specified under Subpart K of 42 CFR Part 422. MA-PD Sponsor also acknowledges that Article IX.B of this Addendum may prevent the sponsor from entering into a Part C contract for 2 years following an addendum termination or non-renewal where such non-renewal or termination prevents MA-PD Sponsor from meeting the requirements of 42 CFR § 422.4(c).
- B. The termination of this Addendum by either party shall not, by itself, relieve the parties from their obligations under the Part C or cost plan contracts to which this document is an addendum.
- C. In the event that MA-PD Sponsor's Part C or cost plan contract (as applicable) is terminated or nonrenewed by either party, the provisions of this Addendum shall also terminate. In such an event, MA-PD Sponsor and CMS shall provide notice to enrollees and the public as described in this contract as well as 42 CFR Part 422 Subpart K or 42 CFR Part 417 Subpart K, as applicable.

**Article XI**  
**Compliance and Enforcement Actions**

A. INTERMEDIATE SANCTIONS

Consistent with Subpart O of 42 CFR Part 423, MA-PD Sponsor shall be subject to sanctions and civil money penalties.

B. COMPLIANCE ACTIONS AND PAST PERFORMANCE

CMS may determine that the MA-PD Sponsor is out of compliance with a Part D requirement and take compliance actions as described in 42 CFR § 423.505(n) or issue intermediate sanctions as defined in 42 CFR Part 423 Subpart O. **[42 CFR § 423.505(n)]**

**Article XII**  
**Severability**

Severability of this Addendum shall be in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.504(e).

**Article XIII**  
**Miscellaneous**

A. DEFINITIONS

Terms not otherwise defined in this Addendum shall have the meaning given such terms at §§ 1860D-1 through 1860D-43 of the Act and 42 CFR Part 423 or, as applicable, 42 CFR Part 422 or Part 417.

B. ALTERATION TO ORIGINAL ADDENDUM TERMS

MA-PD Sponsor agrees and attests that it has not altered in any way the terms of the MA-PD Addendum presented for signature by CMS. MA-PD Sponsor agrees that any alterations to the original text MA-PD Sponsor may make to this Addendum shall not be binding on the parties.

C. ADDITIONAL CONTRACT TERMS

MA-PD Sponsor agrees to include in this Addendum other terms and conditions in accordance with 42 CFR § 423.505(j).

D. Pursuant to § 13112 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), MA-PD Sponsor agrees that as it implements, acquires, or upgrades its health information technology systems, it shall utilize, where available, health information technology systems and products that meet standards and implementation specifications adopted under § 3004 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended by § 13101 of the ARRA.

- E. MA-PD Sponsor agrees to maintain a fiscally sound operation by at least maintaining a positive net worth (total assets exceed total liabilities) as required in 42 CFR § 423.505(b)(23).
- F. **Business Continuity:** MA-PD Sponsor agrees to develop, maintain, and implement a business continuity plan as required by 42 CFR § 423.505(p).
- G. The MA-PD Sponsor agrees to comply with applicable anti-discrimination laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (and pertinent regulations at 45 CFR Part 80), § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (and pertinent regulations at 45 CFR Part 84), and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (and pertinent regulations at 45 CFR Part 91). The MA-PD sponsor agrees to comply with the requirements relating to Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities in 45 CFR Part 92, including submitting assurances that the MA-PD Sponsor's health programs and activities are operated in compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements, as required in 45 CFR § 92.5.
- H. The final settlement process and payment, as well as any appeals, will be handled in accordance with 42 CFR §§ 423.521 and 423.522.

In witness whereof, the parties hereby execute this Addendum.

This document has been electronically signed by:

FOR THE MA-PD SPONSOR

<<CONTRACTING\_OFFICIAL\_NAME >>

Contracting Official Name

<<DATE\_STAMP>>

Date

<<CONTRACT\_NAME>>

Organization

<<ADDRESS>>

Address

FOR THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

<<Vanessa Duran\_ESIG>>

Vanessa S. Duran

Director

Medicare Drug Benefit  
and C & D Data Group,  
Center for Medicare

<<DATE\_STAMP>>

Date