



Office of Beneficiary Information Services

Date: September 11, 2006
To: Medicare Advantage Plans
Medicare Cost Plans
From: CMS, Website Project Management Group
Subject: Plan Preview Dates for 2007 Medicare Personal Plan Finder

Please Note: The information contained in this memo ONLY pertains to the preview of the health and drug benefit information submitted by Medicare Advantage (MA) Organizations and Medicare Cost Plans for publishing in the Medicare Personal Plan Finder on www.medicare.gov. MA plans and Medicare Cost Plans that cover the Part D benefit will receive a separate memo containing information about the preview of drug pricing information for the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder.

This memorandum will give you a timeline and instructions for previewing plan benefit and cost sharing data and out-of-pocket estimates for display in the 2007 Medicare Personal Plan Finder (MPPF) on Medicare.gov. All Medicare Advantage Plans and any Medicare Cost Plans that filed a 2007 Plan Benefit Package should preview their plan data for the MPPF to ensure that the plan's 2007 data will display accurately on Medicare.gov. The 2007 MPPF is scheduled to go live on Medicare.gov on October 12, 2006.

Please note that this preview includes data on Medicare Advantage and Medicare Cost Plans (H# or R#); it does not include data on Prescription Drug Plans (S#).

Plan Preview Schedule

The schedule for plan previews through November is as follows. These dates, as well as all dates beyond November, will be posted on the HPMS Home page.

MPPF Release Date	Plan Preview Date(s)
October 12	September 15-19 and September 25-26
November 2	October 20-23
November 16	November 2-3

How to Preview Estimated Out-of-Pocket Cost Data

To preview estimated out-of-pocket cost (OOPC) data:

- Access the MPPF OOPC Preview on HPMS through the Plan Bids link. Then, select the CY2007 link on the left navigation bar and follow the instructions from there.
- Review the data. If you believe the data is incorrect, then you should nonconcur during the preview. If you nonconcur, your plan's estimated OOPC will be suppressed in the 2007 MPPF.

How to Preview Benefit/Cost Sharing Data

To preview plan benefit/cost sharing data:

- Access the MPPF Benefits Preview on HPMS through the Plan Bids link. Then, select the CY2007 link on the left navigation bar and follow the instructions from there.
- Review the plan data. If it is accurate, concur during the preview. If anything is wrong with the data, you can non-concur. If you non-concur, you should indicate the reason for non-concurrence because it significantly increases the likelihood of our being able to work with you to correct anything that may need to be corrected in time to display your plan on MPPF.
- When you non-concur, it means that all benefit and cost sharing data is suppressed. The plan contact information is not suppressed. It also means that that if the plan covers drugs, it is also suppressed in the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (there is an exception to this rule for Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans – see below). A plan will remain suppressed until/unless you concur in a future plan preview (see “Future Plan Previews” below).

Special Information for Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (DE SNPs)

Option 1: Suppress your DE SNPs on the MPPF

All DE SNPs were given this option in 2006 and will continue to be given this option in 2007. If the plan is suppressed, the plan name and contact information displays on MPPF, but the benefit and cost sharing information does not. An "Important Note" is also displayed for the plan that will say:

"This plan is a Medicare Special Needs Plan for people with both Medicare and Medicaid. Contact the plan for details about benefits and cost sharing."

NOTE: If the DE SNP chooses this option, the plan's drug benefit/cost sharing data will not be suppressed in the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder unless the DE SNP indicates that the plan should also be suppressed in that web tool. Unless the DE SNP has inaccuracies in the prescription drug benefit section of the PBP, the information displayed in the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder should be accurate on Medicare.gov.

Option 2: Display your DE SNPs on the MPPF

All DE SNPs were given this option in 2006 and will continue to be given this option in 2007. An "Important Note" would be displayed for your plans as follows:

"This plan is a Medicare Special Needs Plan for people with both Medicare and Medicaid. The amount you must pay for benefits may be less than what is shown here. Contact the plan for details."

Benefit/Cost Sharing Preview Tips

- The MPPF pulls all plan benefit and cost sharing data from the PBP. If your PBP is wrong, then the data in MPPF will be wrong. Thus, if you determine that your PBP is wrong, you should suppress your plan in MPPF and work with CMS' Medicare Advantage Group (or the Medicare Drug Benefit Group for prescription drug benefits) to get the PBP fixed and re-uploaded as quickly as possible. After the PBP is fixed, re-uploaded, and approved by CMS, then you should check the data in the next available plan preview period and "concur" so that the plan data will show up on the web.
- If your plan name or contact information is not displaying correctly in the MPPF, you are responsible for changing this information in HPMS so that MPPF will display the correct information.
 - To change your Customer Service Contact for Prospective Members phone number (which is what is used on the web site), follow this path:

Plan Bids>Bid Submission>Manage Plans>Edit Contact Data

- To change your Plan Name or Plan Geographic Name, follow this path:

Plan Bids>Bid Submission>Manage Plans>Edit Marketing Data

Future Plan Previews

After you complete your first plan preview:

- If you concurred during the plan preview, your plan benefit data is displayed on MPPF:
 - If you want the plan to continue to be displayed, you can either do nothing during future preview periods or you can "concur" during the preview. In either case, your plan will continue to be displayed on the web.
 - If you now want the plan suppressed, simply non-concur in a future preview period.

- If you non-concurred during the preview, your plan benefit data is suppressed on MPPF:
 - If you want the plan to continue to be suppressed, you can either do nothing during the preview periods or you can “non-concur” during the preview. In either case, your plan will continue to be suppressed on the web.
 - If you now want the plan displayed, simply concur in a future preview period.

If you have any comments or questions about how your 2007 plan data appears during your preview, please send them to compchart@cms.hhs.gov. Thank you.