

SUMMARY OF HPMS RELEASES

For the week ending July 28, 2006

Announcement

Compliance Conference Announcement - CMS will conduct a one day Compliance Conference for Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans, PACE providers, Prescription Drug Plans (PDP) and CMS Contracted Employer Plans on August 28, 2006 at the CMS Central Office located at 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland. Compliance officers or similar officials from each MA and PDP plan are urged to attend.

CMS has posted plan-level Medicare Advantage (MA), Cost, PACE, Demo, and Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) enrollment data to the CMS Part D Enrollment Data web page in a downloadable Excel format. This data reflects enrollment counts that were paid for the month of July 2006. Please carefully review the technical notes appearing at the top of the worksheet.

Plan-level data will be posted once a year during the month following the conclusion of the MA open enrollment season. Barring any legislative changes, interested parties can expect the next plan-level enrollment data in June 2007, following the end of MA enrollment season on April 30.

All other months of the year, CMS will post MA and Part D enrollment data at the contract level. Additionally, CMS will post a summary of enrollment by organization type.

The Annual Report by Plan is available in the "downloads" section at:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovGenIn/02_EnrollmentData.asp

Title: Medicare Marketing Guidelines for Medicare Advantage (MA), Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans (MA-PD), Prescription Drug Plans (PDP) and 1876 Cost Plans

Date: July 26, 2006

Summary: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is releasing an update to the Medicare Marketing Guidelines for Medicare Advantage (MA), Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans (MA-PD), Prescription Drug Plans (PDP) and 1876 Cost Plans, last updated on November 1, 2005. Please access the documents at:

www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/Downloads/MarketingGuidelines_NextYear.pdf

Title: Coordination of Benefits (COB) User Fee

Date: July 24, 2006

Summary: Under the Medicare Modernization Act, CMS is permitted to impose user fees for the transmittal of information necessary for the coordination of benefits (COB) under the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit.

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Title: Part D Sponsors Call Center Surveillance

Date: July 28, 2006

Summary: Beginning August 3, 2006, a contractor for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) will resume full call center surveillance at the beneficiary and pharmacy call centers. This call center surveillance will be conducted in the same manner as the monitoring that took place March through June of this year.

Title: July Update of the Formulary Reference NDC File for CY 2007 Formulary Submissions

Date: July 28, 2006

Summary: The Formulary Reference NDC File (FRF) has been updated to include additional Part D covered drugs and to remove obsolete or excluded drugs based in part on industry feedback. Attached are two files that relate to this update: 1) the Formulary Reference File with the cumulative list of drugs and 2) the Formulary Reference File Change Report containing a list of drug record changes since the last Reference File posting on March 27, 2006. The Change Report will include those drugs found in the Reference File Supplement posted April 12, 2006. Please note that the Formulary Reference File is not intended to be a comprehensive listing of Part D covered drugs and it is the responsibility of the organizations to determine coverage of drugs that do not appear on this file (Part D or otherwise).

Title: Release of Medicare Health Outcomes Survey 2003-2005 Cohort 6 Performance Measurement Reports in HPMS

Date: July 27, 2006

Summary: Announces the distribution of the Medicare Health Outcomes survey *2003-2005 Cohort 6 Performance Measurement Report* for all participation Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans. A new Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measure is included in the report.