



CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

TO: All Current and Prospective Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plan, Cost, PACE, and Demonstration Organizations and Certifying Actuaries

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SUBJECT: Invitation to Provide Feedback on the CY 2008 Bid Submission Process in HPMS and the CY 2008 Bid Pricing (Actuarial) Requirements

CMS invites all Medicare Advantage (MA), demonstration, 1876 cost, PACE, and Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) organizations and certifying actuaries to provide feedback on the Contract Year (CY) 2008 bid submission process in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). CMS is also soliciting feedback on the CY 2008 actuarial bid requirements. Specifically, we are seeking comments and suggestions regarding the following areas:

- Plan Benefit Package/Summary of Benefits (PBP/SB) software;
- HPMS Bid Submission module, which includes functions such as plan creation, bid upload, plan and formulary crosswalks, substantiation and actuarial certification uploads, and service area verification;
- MA Bid Pricing Tool (BPT);
- Prescription Drug (PD) Bid Pricing Tool (BPT);
- Two Year Lookback Form;
- CMS instructions regarding the completion of the BPTs;
- Actuarial certifications, documentation requirements, and any other actuarial issues related to the bidding process; and
- HPMS bid and benefit reports.

CMS has scheduled the feedback period to take place from **Monday, August 13, 2007** through **Friday, September 14, 2007**. As with prior years, an online Internet application is available to support the collection of your comments and suggestions.

To provide comments on the CY 2008 bid process, including the PBP and other bid-related tools, please visit:

http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/bid2008_lessons_learned/home.html

To provide comments on the BPT, please visit:

http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/bpt2008_lessons_learned/home.html

As a reminder, the comment websites are accessible via the Internet. HPMS access is not required.

If you are unable to use the online application, we will also accept comment through the HPMS Help Desk via hpms@cms.hhs.gov. Please put “Feedback on CY 2008” in the subject line.

We strongly encourage you to take this opportunity to provide your feedback. Your comments and suggestions will be invaluable as we work toward making improvements for the CY 2009 bid-related software and processes.

Thank you for your participation.