

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending August 17, 2007

Title: Technical Errors in Enrollment Transactions for Creditable Coverage Period Determinations – ACTION REQUIRED

Date: 8/13/07

Summary: CMS has learned that some Part D plans are submitting anomalously large “number of uncovered months” values on enrollment transactions. This memorandum provides specific instructions for plans on how uncovered months should be entered into MARx.

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

Date: 8/13/07

Summary: 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 Insurance Plan Management System (HPMS). CMS is also soliciting feedback on the CY 2008 actuarial bid requirements.

Title: Release of the 2008 Part D National Average Monthly Bid Amount, the Medicare Part D Base Beneficiary Premium, the Part D Regional Low-Income Premium Subsidy Amounts, and the Medicare Advantage Regional Benchmarks; and for MA-PD plans, Part D Premium Information and MA Regional Plan

Date: 8/13/07

Summary: This HPMS release provides two items: (1) the notice on “Release of the 2008 Part D National Average Monthly Bid Amount, the Medicare Part D Base Beneficiary Premium, the Part D Regional Low-Income Premium Subsidy Amounts, and the Medicare Advantage Regional Benchmarks;” and (2) Part D Premium Information and MA Regional Plan Information (on rebate reallocation procedures).

Title: Prescription Drug Event Data Status Update

Date: 8/17/07

Summary: This memo informs plans of current status of PDE processing and the final reconciliation schedule.

Title: Resynchronize Payment and Premium Data with Membership Data

Date: 8/17/07

Summary: The MARx payment system comprises of three subsystems: enrollment, payment, and premiums. This letter notifies plans that CMS has performed a resynchronization of the enrollment, payment and premium data in MARx. This was done to correct inconsistencies between these types of data. Resultant payment adjustments will be included in plans’ September payment. This resynchronization is necessary to correct the expected premiums for some of the beneficiaries excluded from the 2006 premium reconciliation analysis as discussed in the July 23, 2007 HPMS

memorandum, “Update on the 2006 Premium Withholding Reconciliation (PWR) including file layouts for new ad-hoc member level report”.

Title: 2008 Medicare & You Handbook – Plan Data Preview

Date: 8/17/07

Summary: This memo describes what the Medicare & You handbook columns will present in CY2008, the preview period for the handbook on HPMS, and how to make necessary updates.

Title: Upcoming Release of CY2008 Contracting and Bid Attestation Instructions and Documents

Date: 8/17/07

Summary: CMS announces the upcoming release of the contracting instructions and contract package material for the 2008 contract year. The instructions will provide explicit direction on the required documents and the important deadlines for all new applicants and renewing organizations. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide some highlights of these key deadlines and essential contracting documents.

Title: Clarification of 2008 Marketing Operational Issues

Date: 8/17/07

Summary: As we approach the 2008 marketing season, many of you are busy preparing and submitting your marketing materials for review and approval. Over the last couple of months, we have updated and released the 2008 model marketing materials. These updated models include the Formulary, Pharmacy Directory, Annual Notice of Change, Evidence of Coverage, LIS Rider, and the new Late Enrollment Penalty forms. In an effort to increase the efficiency of the marketing material review process, we are allowing plans some flexibility to amend the model documents and still maintaining model approval status.

Title: Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program Mark

Date: 8/17/07

Summary: In accordance with the Medicare Marketing Guidelines, CMS will issue the official Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Mark to Medicare Health Plans offering the Part D Prescription Drug Benefit. Part D Sponsors may use the Mark’s image, as appropriate, on marketing materials, as defined in the Medicare Marketing Guidelines. However, prior to the Mark being distributed, Part D Sponsors must sign and return the attached license agreement between the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Medicare Part D Sponsor for the use of the Mark.

Title: Issuance of Final 2008 Model Evidence of Coverage (EOC)

Date: 8/18/07

Summary: CMS is issuing the final EOC models specific to each plan type (MA only, MA-PD, Cost Plan, PFFS, PPO and PDP).