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**MEDICARE CURRENT BENEFICIARY SURVEY**  
Beneficiary Information Needs

RIC: BN  
Page: 1  
Version: 2

Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
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This file (much like the RIC BK) provides the opportunity to quantify many of CMS's Strategic Plan objectives. Specifically, it is designed to obtain an understanding as to how beneficiaries receive information about their benefits and about developments in the Medicare program.

RIC	1	2					C Record Identification Code
VERSION	3	1					C Version Number
BASEID	4	8	\$BSIDFMT				C Unique SP Identification Number
				14,009			LOW-HIGH BASEID Count
BNKNCOVR	12	2	KNWFMT		BN1		N Know about what services Medicare covers
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				57			-8 Don't know
				76			-7 Refused
				2,110			1 Just about everything necessary
				4,509			2 Most of what is necessary
				3,683			3 Some of what is necessary
				2,162			4 A little of what is necessary
				1,411			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTE: First available in 1998

BNKNPAYM	14	2	KNWFMT		BN2		N Know about what SP must pay for services
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				95			-8 Don't know
				76			-7 Refused
				2,762			1 Just about everything necessary
				4,353			2 Most of what is necessary
				3,265			3 Some of what is necessary
				2,015			4 A little of what is necessary
				1,442			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTE: First available in 1998

BNKNSUPL	16	2	KNWFMT		BN3		N Know about supplement/Medigap coverage
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				141			-8 Don't know
				77			-7 Refused
				2,174			1 Just about everything necessary
				3,629			2 Most of what is necessary
				2,664			3 Some of what is necessary
				2,146			4 A little of what is necessary
				3,177			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTE: First available in 1998

BNKNMCP	18	2	KNWFMT		BN4		N Know abt avail & bens-Mcare managed care
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				152			-8 Don't know
				79			-7 Refused
				1,566			1 Just about everything necessary
				2,195			2 Most of what is necessary
				2,079			3 Some of what is necessary
				2,178			4 A little of what is necessary
				5,759			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTE: First available in 1998

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BNKNCHDR	20	2	KNOWFMT			BN5	N Know abt choosing Dr/hlth care provider
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				106			-8 Don't know
				76			-7 Refused
				3,709			1 Just about everything necessary
				4,901			2 Most of what is necessary
				2,792			3 Some of what is necessary
				1,454			4 A little of what is necessary
				970			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTE: First available in 1998

BNKNHLTH	22	2	KNOWFMT			BN6	N Know about staying healthy
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				54			-8 Don't know
				75			-7 Refused
				4,580			1 Just about everything necessary
				5,995			2 Most of what is necessary
				2,412			3 Some of what is necessary
				645			4 A little of what is necessary
				247			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTE: First available in 1998

BNKNMDCD	24	2	KNOWFMT			BN7	N Know about what services Mcaid covers
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				15			-8 Don't know
				9			-7 Refused
				12,395			-1 Inapplicable
				213			1 Just about everything necessary
				396			2 Most of what is necessary
				409			3 Some of what is necessary
				288			4 A little of what is necessary
				283			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTES: Applies only if SP is covered by Medicaid  
First available in 1998

BNKNCARE	26	2	KNOWFMT			BN7a	N How much do you know abt quality of care
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				144			-8 Don't know
				78			-7 Refused
				2,381			1 Just about everything necessary
				4,825			2 Most of what is necessary
				3,384			3 Some of what is necessary
				1,767			4 A little of what is necessary
				1,429			5 Almost none of what is necessary

NOTE: First available in 2000

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Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
BUYINPRG	28	2	YES1FMT		BN8		N Heard of Medicare buy-in programs
				17			-8 Don't know
				28			-7 Refused
				9,819			-1 Inapplicable
				459			1 Yes
				3,686			2 No
NOTES: Asked only of SPs in new panels beginning in 2000 Round 24).							
First available in 1998							
BUYINBEN	30	2	YES1FMT		BN9		N Aware of Medicare buy-in benefits
				12			-8 Don't know
				10,306			-1 Inapplicable
				276			1 Yes
				3,415			2 No
NOTES: Asked only if BUYINPRG = 2 or -8.							
First available in 1998							
BNTOPIC1	32	2	BNTOPIC		BN10		N Topic most important to have info about
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				124			-8 Don't know
				75			-7 Refused
				3,085			1 What services Medicare does/does not cov
				1,027			2 How much SP would pay for med services
				443			3 Supplemental of Medigap insurance
				382			4 Avail and benefits of Mcar Mnkd care pla
				551			5 Choosing/Finding a Dr or other med prov
				987			6 Staying healthy
				226			7 Medicaid
				736			8 QMB, SLMB, QI, or buy-in plans
				651			9 Qual of care prov by dr/hosp/manage care
				5,721			96 Does not want or need this information
NOTE: First available in 1998							
BNTOPIC2	34	2	BNTOPIC		BN10		N Topic 2nd most important 2 have info abt
				8,407			-1 Inapplicable
				589			1 What services Medicare does/does not cov
				1,648			2 How much SP would pay for med services
				415			3 Supplemental of Medigap insurance
				396			4 Avail and benefits of Mcar Mnkd care pla
				562			5 Choosing/Finding a Dr or other med prov
				756			6 Staying healthy
				212			7 Medicaid
				387			8 QMB, SLMB, QI, or buy-in plans
				637			9 Qual of care prov by dr/hosp/manage care
				0			96 Does not want or need this information
NOTES: Applies only if SP needs more info on more than one topic/program							
First available in 1998							

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Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
BNTOPIC3	36	2	BNTOPIC		BN10		N Topic 3rd most important 2 have info abt
				10,259			-1 Inapplicable
				366			1 What services Medicare does/does not cov
				397			2 How much SP would pay for med services
				403			3 Supplemental of Medigap insurance
				303			4 Avail and benefits of Mcar Mngd care pla
				442			5 Choosing/Finding a Dr or other med prov
				706			6 Staying healthy
				216			7 Medicaid
				280			8 QMB, SLMB, QI, or buy-in plans
				637			9 Qual of care prov by dr/hosp/manage care
				0			96 Does not want or need this information

NOTES: Applies only if SP needs more info on more than two topics/programs  
First available in 1998

BNGOCVR	38	2	BNGOSRC		BN11		N Source SP goes to 4 Mcare coverage info
				4			-9 Not ascertained
				199			-8 Don't know
				75			-7 Refused
				580			1 Community civic org, sr ctr, or library
				3,227			2 Doctor or other medical provider
				5,539			3 Medicare programs/carrier, incl 800 no.
				537			4 A health insurance company or an HMO
				368			5 AARP or other senior citizens group
				808			6 Family/friends/caregivers
				162			91 Other specify
				2,510			96 Does not want or need this information

NOTE: First available in 1998

BNGOCVOS	40	30			BN11		C SP's other source 4 Mcare coverage info
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NOTE: First available in 1998

BNGOMMCP	70	2	BNGOSRC		BN12		N SP's source for Mcare managed care info
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				408			-8 Don't know
				77			-7 Refused
				311			1 Community civic org, sr ctr, or library
				1,227			2 Doctor or other medical provider
				3,190			3 Medicare programs/carrier, incl 800 no.
				1,869			4 A health insurance company or an HMO
				312			5 AARP or other senior citizens group
				559			6 Family/friends/caregivers
				74			91 Other specify
				5,981			96 Does not want or need this information

NOTE: First available in 1998

BNGOMCOS	72	30			BN12		C SP's oth source 4 Mcare manage care info
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NOTE: First available in 1998

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Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
BNGOSUPL	102	2	BNGOSRC	BN13			N Source SP go to 4 supplemen/Medigap info
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				431			-8 Don't know
				76			-7 Refused
				326			1 Community civic org, sr ctr, or library
				1,031			2 Doctor or other medical provider
				2,125			3 Medicare programs/carrier, incl 800 no.
				3,927			4 A health insurance company or an HMO
				685			5 AARP or other senior citizens group
				689			6 Family/friends/caregivers
				169			91 Other specify
				4,549			96 Does not want or need this information
							NOTE: First available in 1998
BNGOSPOS	104	30		BN13			C SP's oth source 4 Mcare supple/Mgap info
							NOTE: First available in 1998
KPUPNONE	134	2	IND2FMT	BN14			N Mcare development info not want/needed
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				56			-8 Don't know
				75			-7 Refused
				1,290			1 Indicated
				12,587			2 Not Indicated
							NOTE: First available in 1998
KPUPTALK	136	2	IND2FMT	BN14			N Mcare development info--talk w/ others
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				56			-8 Don't know
				75			-7 Refused
				7,263			1 Indicated
				6,614			2 Not Indicated
							NOTE: First available in 1998
KPUPFONE	137	2	IND2FMT	BN14			N Mcare developments info from telephone
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				56			-8 Don't know
				75			-7 Refused
				4,575			1 Indicated
				9,302			2 Not Indicated
							NOTE: First available in 1998
KPUPBROC	140	2	IND2FMT	BN14			N Mcare development info brochure/pamphlet
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				56			-8 Don't know
				75			-7 Refused
				6,565			1 Indicated
				7,312			2 Not Indicated
							NOTE: First available in 1998

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Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
KPUPTVRD	142	2	IND2FMT		BN14		N Mcare developments info from TV or radio -9 Not ascertained -8 Don't know -7 Refused 1 Indicated 2 Not Indicated
				1 56 75 3,157 10,720			
				NOTE: First available in 1998			
KPUPNEWS	144	2	IND2FMT		BN14		N Mcare development info-- newsp/magazine -9 Not ascertained -8 Don't know -7 Refused 1 Indicated 2 Not Indicated
				1 56 75 2,964 10,913			
				NOTE: First available in 1998			
KPUPINET	146	2	IND2FMT		BN14		N Mcare developments info from internet -9 Not ascertained -8 Don't know -7 Refused 1 Indicated 2 Not Indicated
				1 56 75 1,037 12,840			
				NOTE: First available in 1998			
KPUPOTH	148	2	IND2FMT		BN14		N Mcare development info-- other specify -9 Not ascertained -8 Don't know -7 Refused 1 Indicated 2 Not Indicated
				1 56 75 200 13,677			
				NOTE: First available in 1998			
KPUPOS	150	30			BN14		C Other source Mcare developments info
				NOTE: First available in 1998			
KPUPBEST	180	2	KPUPBEST		BN15		N Most preferred source 4 keep up w/Mcare -8 Don't know -1 Inapplicable 1 Talk with someone face2face 2 Use a telephone 3 Read a brochure or pamphlet 4 Watch on TV / Hear on radio 5 Read newspaper or magazine 6 Use the internet 91 Other specified
				30 1,422 5,497 1,987 3,362 652 567 354 138			
				NOTES: Applies when SP has several preferred ways for keeping up with Medicare First available in 1998			

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Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
BNPAPWRK	182	2	BNPAPWRK		BN20		N SP handles Medicare paperwork
				1			-9 Not ascertained
				18			-8 Don't know
				54			-7 Refused
				8,255			1 SP does it himself or herself
				3,561			2 Someone else does it
				2,120			3 No one does it or there is no paperwork
							NOTE: First available in 1999
BNHAVCOM	184	2	YES2FMT		BN22		N SP has personal computer in home
				2			-9 Not ascertained
				5			-8 Don't know
				59			-7 Refused
				4,219			1 Yes
				9,724			2 No
							NOTE: First available in 1998
BNHAVCAB	186	2	YES2FMT		BN23		N SP has cable TV in home
				2			-9 Not ascertained
				13			-8 Don't know
				58			-7 Refused
				10,610			1 Yes
				3,326			2 No
							NOTE: First available in 1998
BNHAVVCR	188	2	YES2FMT		BN24		N SP has VCR in home
				2			-9 Not ascertained
				20			-8 Don't know
				60			-7 Refused
				10,802			1 Yes
				3,125			2 No
							NOTE: First available in 1998
INETACCS	190	2	YESNONET		BN25		N SP has access 2 internet/oth online svc.
				2			-9 Not ascertained
				27			-8 Don't know
				58			-7 Refused
				4,332			1 Yes
				9,374			2 No
				216			3 Never heard of the internet
							NOTE: First available in 1998
INETUSED	192	2	YES1FMT		BN26		N SP has used internet/other online svc.
				5			-8 Don't know
				303			-1 Inapplicable
				3,459			1 Yes
				10,242			2 No
							NOTES: Applies only if INETACCS = 1 or 2 First available in 1998

Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
INETMNTH	194	2	YES1FMT	BN27			N SP used internet/oth online svc last mos
				6			-8 Don't know
				10,550			-1 Inapplicable
				2,305			1 Yes
				1,148			2 No
			NOTES: Applies only if INETUSED = 1 First available in 1998				
INETYEAR	196	2	YES1FMT	BN28			N SP used internet/oth online--last 12 mos
				1			-8 Don't know
				10,556			-1 Inapplicable
				2,771			1 Yes
				681			2 No
			NOTES: Applies only if INETUSED = 1 First available in 1998				
VISITWEB	198	2	YES1FMT	BN28a			N Has SP visited website for Medicare info
				13			-8 Don't know
				10,751			-1 Inapplicable
				315			1 Yes
				2,930			2 No
			NOTES: Applies only if INETUSED = 1 First available in 1999				
WEBLASTM	200	2	YES1FMT	BN28b			N SP accessed Medicare website in last mo.
				2			-8 Don't know
				13,493			-1 Inapplicable
				116			1 Yes
				398			2 No
			NOTES: Applies only if INETUSED = 1 First available in 2000				
WEBLASTY	202	2	YES1FMT	BN28c			N SP accessed Medicare website in last yr.
				4			-8 Don't know
				13,495			-1 Inapplicable
				325			1 Yes
				185			2 No
			NOTES: Applies only if INETUSED = 1 First available in 2000				
LIBRECNT	204	2	YES2FMT	BN30a			N Has SP used used library in past 12 mos
				2			-9 Not ascertained
				20			-8 Don't know
				54			-7 Refused
				3,571			1 Yes
				10,362			2 No
			NOTE: First available in 1999				



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Variable	Col	Len	Format	Frequency	ComQues#	FacQues#	Variable Type & Label
CTRRECNT	206	2	YES2FMT				
					BN33a		N Has SP used senior center in past 12 mos
				2			-9 Not ascertained
				11			-8 Don't know
				53			-7 Refused
				2,030			1 Yes
				11,913			2 No

NOTE: First available in 1999