



MEDICARE DRUG & HEALTH PLAN CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION GROUP

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 12, 2010

TO: PACE Organizations
State Approving Agencies
CMS Central Office and Regional Office PACE Team
National PACE Association

FROM: Danielle R. Moon, J.D., M.P.A.
Director

SUBJECT: Practices for PACE Organizations to Use Nurse Practitioners in the PACE Program

Some PACE organizations, particularly the rural PACE grantees, are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit qualified physicians serving a frail geriatric population. As a result, many have submitted requests to CMS for waivers that would permit Nurse Practitioners (NP) to conduct services that, as set forth in the PACE regulations, are currently assigned to the primary care physician. We have developed the attached draft guidance for organizations submitting such waivers.

We are soliciting feedback and comments on the attached draft policy from PACE stakeholders. Please submit comments by May 26, 2010 to the PACE dedicated mailbox at PACE_NP_Comments@cms.hhs.gov.