

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending June 16, 2006

Announcements

In the past 6 months, Plans have received numerous notifications regarding the expectation that Plans perform QA checks prior to submitting pricing data files for the Medicare Plan finder tool. The most recent examples of these types of checks include the formulary inclusion of all drugs of clinical concern, and ensuring that HIV medications are not restricted by utilization management tools. This announcement is to alert all plans that, effective next Wednesday, June 21, 2006, any Plan found to have issues in their pricing files will have their pricing data suppressed from the Medicare Plan finder tool at the next posting. Plans will receive notification of this suppression, and be directed to submit corrected data during the next regular DestinationRx submission window. Thank you.

Releases

Title: Subject Q&A: Clarification Long Term Care (LTC) Contracting

Date: June 13, 2006

Summary: Based on numerous requests for clarification since the release of the 05.19.06 LTC Contracting Q&A, CMS has decided to revise this Q&A.

Title: Subject Q&A: Refills during states of emergency

Date: June 14, 2006

Summary: With the beginning of the hurricane season and Tropical Storm Alberto affecting Florida and surrounding area, CMS wishes to reiterate its policy with respect to refills of Part D medications during states of emergency.

Title: Coordination of Benefits (COB) / True Out of Pocket (TrOOP) Attestation

Date: June 14, 2006

Summary: Please see the attached memo from Cynthia Tudor, Acting Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group, regarding compliance with our coordination of benefits requirements – including the tracking of “true out-of-pocket” (TrOOP expenditures) – as issued in the 2006 Coordination of Benefits Guidance and other related operational guidance documents. All Part D sponsors must submit an electronically signed attestation per the instructions below to PartDBenefitImp@cms.hhs.gov by 5pm EDT June 28, 2006.

Title: CY2007 PBP Software Enhancement

Date: June 16, 2006

Summary: The Contract Year (CY) 2007 Plan Benefit Package (PBP) software has been updated. However it is only required that organizations offering the Basic Alternative

Part D benefit coverage download this enhancement to correct an issue with the Part D deductible data entry section. If your organization does not offer this type of Part D benefit, then you may choose not to download the enhancement. Please refer to the memo for further technical and procedural instructions.

Title: Enhancements to the Complaints Tracking Module

Date: June 16, 2006

Summary: On June 23, 2006, CMS will implement several enhancements to the HPMS Complaints Tracking Module (CTM). This release will also include a change to the way in which CMS parses the daily complaint files sent to the Part D organizations via either Gentran or Connect:Direct. This memo provides information about: 1) the enhancements in the module release, 2) the changes made to the daily plan complaint files, and 3) a Standard Operating Procedures document related to the use of the CTM for complaints resolution.

**Title: Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug System (MARx) June Payment-
INFORMATION**

Date: June 15, 2006

Summary: To allow CMS to complete end of year processing in a timely manner, the MARx cutoff date will be **moved from 11/15 to 11/8**. Plans must submit enrollments by 11/8 in order to receive a December 1 payment for these individuals.