



Administrator

Washington, DC 20201

DATE: November 14, 2024

TO: Xavier Becerra, Secretary

THROUGH: Angel Ramirez; Deputy Chief of Staff
Manuel Joe Carrillo, White House Liaison
Elizabeth J. Gramling, Executive Secretary

FROM: Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

SUBJECT: DECISION - Request to Renew the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Medicare Evidence Development & Coverage Advisory Committee Charter

ACTION REQUESTED

This memorandum recommends that you approve the attached renewal to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) charter of the Medicare Evidence Development & Coverage Advisory Committee (MEDCAC). The current charter expires on November 24, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that the Secretary approve the Notice of Renewal, the Charter and the Delegation of Authority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), and by delegation, the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Director of the Center for Clinical Standards and Quality, CMS, are charged with deciding which medical items and services are reasonable and necessary, or otherwise covered, for Medicare beneficiaries under title XVIII of the Social Security Act. The MEDCAC, which is a Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) compliant advisory committee, originally chartered in 1998, provides advice regarding the clinical evidence presented to CMS on topics under review by Medicare. The Committee's purpose is to support the evidence-based determination process for Medicare's coverage policies. MEDCAC panels provide advice to CMS on the strength of the evidence available for specific medical treatments and technologies through a public, participatory and accountable process.

The MEDCAC currently functions as one FACA committee consisting of a pool of a maximum of 100 expert members. Members will be selected from among authorities in clinical and administrative medicine, biologic and physical sciences, public health administration, patient

advocates, health care data and information management and analysis, health care economics, medical ethics, and other related professions.

The MEDCAC meeting roster will take maximum advantage of the expert skills housed in the 100-member expert pool. Each Committee meeting will deal with one or more specific clinical topics, and will include no more than 15 MEDCAC members. Members will be selected from the expert pool based on the topic and their expertise.

Notable Timing Factors:

The current charter begins on November 24, 2022 and expires on November 24, 2024. Unless renewed by appropriate action prior to its expiration, the MEDCAC will terminate two years from the date the charter is filed.

Noteworthy Elements about Equity:

We wish to increase the likelihood of adequate representation of those enrolled in the Medicare program including but not limited to, racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, and from across the gender spectrum. Therefore, we encourage nominations of qualified candidates who can represent these lived experiences.

ANTICIPATED STAKEHOLDER REACTION

Federal partners and stakeholders will react positively to the renewal the proposed charter.

ROLLOUT

The updated charter will be shared with stakeholders and posted on the MEDCAC website.



Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator

DECISION

I recommend that the Secretary approve the Notice of Renewal, Charter and the Delegation of Authority.

Approved []
Disapproved []
Briefing Needed []

Additional Comments:

Xavier Becerra

Date

ATTACHMENTS:

- TAB A: Current Charter
- TAB B: Proposed Renewed Charter
- TAB C: Proposed Renewed Charter Redline
- TAB D: Notice of Charter Renewal
- TAB E: Legislative Authority
- TAB F: Membership Balance Plan
- TAB G: Financial Operating Plan
- TAB H: Current Membership Roster
- TAB I: Delegation of Authority
- TAB J: Filing Letters