

HPMS E-Mail

Date: June 19, 2020

Subject: 2020 Protocols for the Medicare Part C and Part D Program Audits, Medicare-Medicaid Plan Program Audits, and Part C Timeliness Monitoring Project

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing that the final audit protocols for the Medicare Parts C and D Program Audit and Timeliness Monitoring Data Requests and other supporting data collection instruments (CMS-10191; OMB control number: 0938-1000) have been posted to the CMS website. CMS commonly refers to these protocols as the “2020 Medicare Parts C and D Program Audit Protocols.” CMS has also finalized the Contract Year 2020 program audit protocols for Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs). Collectively, these protocols and supporting data collection instruments will be used for Medicare Part C and Part D Program audits, MMP audits, and the Timeliness Monitoring Project (TMP) beginning in 2020, and are available for download at: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Compliance-and-Audits/Part-C-and-Part-D-Compliance-and-Audits/ProgramAudits>.

The Medicare Parts C and D Oversight and Enforcement Group (MOEG) strongly encourages organizations to review these protocols, including the crosswalk of changes that occurred after the 30-day comment period, in preparation for audits and the TMP. CMS announced on March 30, 2020 that it temporarily reprioritized its scheduled program audits (<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-19-programauditsradv-memo.pdf>). However, all Medicare Advantage Organizations, Prescription Drug Plans, and MMPs should take the actions that are necessary to become compliant with the audit protocols and the associated data collection efforts. CMS is considering options for modifying the timing and scope of the 2020 program audits in order to complete them later this year. When the 2020 audit strategy is finalized, we will share that information with you.

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