

Summary of HPMS Releases
For the week ending September 19, 2008

Title: 2009 Regulatory Guidance

Date: 9/15/08

Summary: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services will be hosting two conference calls on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 for MA, MA-PD, PDP, cost-based organizations and Employer/Union-Sponsored Group Health Plans.

Title: Guidance for regulations in CMS 4131-F and CMS 4138-IFC

Date: 9/15/08

Summary: CMS is pleased to provide this guidance as an update/supplement to the Medicare Marketing Guidelines to help you implement the recently released regulations, CMS 4131-F and CMS 4138-IFC, which include changes to the Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Programs.

Title: Reminder – Automated TrOOP Balance Transfer Testing and Certification

Date: 9/17/08

Summary: All Part D sponsors must contact the CMS TrOOP Facilitator, by close of business Friday, September 26, 2008 to either initiate the process of scheduling their certification testing or to confirm that the sponsor's processor; i.e., the entity that will be receiving and responding to the sponsor's automated TrOOP balance transfer transactions, has initiated the scheduling process. Contact by the deadline is mandatory regardless of whether sponsors are certain of their testing readiness dates. Note that all testing must be successfully completed by November 1, 2008.

Title: Medicare Cost-Sharing for Medicaid Beneficiaries

Date: 9/18/08

Summary: This memo informs MA plans of recent guidance provided to States related to balance billing by providers for certain Medicare and Medicaid dually eligible beneficiaries.

Title: Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program Mark

Date: 9/18/08

Summary: This memo outlines the process for requesting the Medicare Mark.

Title: Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual – Chapter 7

Date: 9/19/08

Summary: CMS is pleased to release a revised version of Chapter 7 (Medication Therapy Management and Quality Improvement Program) of the Prescription Drug Benefit Manual for Contract Year 2008 and 2009. This revision incorporates policy changes and clarifications we have made in the 2008 and 2009 Call Letters, HPMS memoranda, and other guidance documents since the chapter's original issuance on May 5, 2007.

Title: CY 2009 Formulary Enhancement Window and Marketing Information

Date: 9/19/08

Summary: CMS is providing Part D sponsors an opportunity to enhance their Part D formularies prior to the Annual Coordinated Election Period. In addition to making formulary enhancements, Part D sponsors must also utilize this submission window to: (1) Modify the applicable prior authorization (PA) and/or step therapy (ST) criteria (only if you received a CMS communication on September 5, 2008 regarding your criteria), and (2) Add newly approved drugs from the six classes of clinical concerns, as outline on page 55 of the CY 2009 Call Letter. Formularies and PA and ST files must be submitted between 12:00 AM EDT on October 1, 2008 and 5:00 PM EDT on October 6, 2008.

Title: Supporting Electronic Prescribing under Medicare Part D

Date: 9/19/08

Summary: The purpose of this communication is to (1) reiterate the requirement for Part D sponsors to support e-prescribing, particularly with respect to the “initial” e-prescribing standards that become effective April 1, 2009, and to (2) suggest a review of network pharmacy dispensing fees for appropriate consideration of new e-prescribing costs.