

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244



**OFFICE OF THE ACTUARY**

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**DATE:** February 12, 2010

**TO:** Medicare Advantage & Prescription Drug CY 2011 Plan Sponsors  
and Certifying Actuaries

**FROM:** Paul Spitalnic, Director, Parts C & D Actuarial Group

**SUBJECT:** Contract Year 2011 MA and Part D Bid Pricing Tool Beta Testing

We are pleased to announce that CMS will be conducting beta testing of the draft Contract Year (CY) 2011 Bid Pricing Tool (BPT). Testing will take place from Monday, February 15, 2010 until Friday, February 26, 2010. During this time, you may download the draft CY 2011 bid forms and instructions at the following website: [http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/BPT2011\\_Beta/bptbeta\\_start.asp](http://hpmstest.fu.com/test/BPT2011_Beta/bptbeta_start.asp)

If you have any comments on the beta BPTs and instructions, please submit them as soon as possible but no later than **COB Friday, February 26, 2010** in order for CMS to continue the development of the CY 2011 BPTs to meet the expected production release on April 9, 2010. Any comments should be reported to CMS via the website indicated above.

Please note that this beta release contains draft versions of the CY 2011 bid forms and instructions. As such:

- The BPTs and instructions are subject to change by CMS prior to the production release.
- The beta BPTs cannot be used to upload any CY 2011 bids to HPMS. Plans must download the production BPTs, and use the production BPTs to prepare and upload all CY 2011 bids.
- The beta BPTs do not contain certain annual parameter updates for CY 2011. For example, the MA ratebook and Part D benefit parameters have not been updated (i.e., the beta BPTs contain CY 2010 values).

Thank you for your assistance with this process. If you have any questions regarding this announcement, please contact CMS Office of the Actuary (OACT) at [actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov)