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DATE: July 23, 2010

TO: All Medicare Advantage Organizations

FROM: Danielle R. Moon, J.D., M.P.A.
Director, Medicare Drug & Health Plan Contract Administration Group

SUBJECT: Extension for Submission of the Quality Improvement Projects and Chronic Care Improvement Programs

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an extension for the submission of Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs) and Chronic Care Improvement Programs (CCIPs) and to provide clarification on the process. Pursuant to CFR §422.152, each Medicare Advantage (MA) organization that offers one or more Medicare Advantage plan must have, for each of those plans, an ongoing Quality Improvement program that meets applicable requirements of this section of the CFR. We are extending the deadline for the submission of QIPs and CCIPs to **August 27, 2010**.

In addition, all plans, including those that have been deemed by an accrediting organization, must submit the QIPs/CCIPs on the appropriate templates so that we can evaluate these projects in a consistent manner.

As a reminder, MA organizations effective on or before January 1, 2009 are required to submit a QIP and CCIP for any plans in existence on or before that date. New plans in existence as of contract year 2010 are exempt from the **August 27, 2010** submission.

QIP and CCIP templates and submission instructions are provided and can be found at the following link: <http://optimalsolutionsgroup.com/CMS/index.html>. If there are any technical questions related to QIP and CCIP submissions, please contact the CMS contractor's technical assistance support team at magro@optimalsolutionsgroup.com or at 866-962-6826 between the hours of 8:30am - 5:30pm, EDT.

For questions related to this memo, please contact Darlene Anderson at darlene.anderson@cms.hhs.gov or Dr. Marsha Davenport at marsha.davenport@cms.hhs.gov.