

HPMS E-Mail

Date: August 19, 2010

Subject: Correction of Systems Problem Affecting Other Prescription Drug Coverage Information and Issuance of Replacement Coordination of Benefits (COB) Files

Earlier this week, we issued an email message announcing that we were deferring the issuance of the full replacement coordination of benefits (COB) files to all Part D sponsors that had been scheduled for the week of August 20-27 to permit additional time for testing. The full replacement files were to be issued following the correction of a system problem affecting CMS' COB data and the resynchronization of the COB Contractor and Medicare Beneficiary Database (MBD) data. The correction and resynchronization process was detailed in a July 30, 2010 CMS memorandum entitled, "Correction of Systems Problem Affecting Other Prescription Drug Coverage Information and Issuance of Replacement Coordination of Benefits (COB) Files."

The purpose of this message is to report that we have concluded our testing and have rescheduled the issuance of the full replacement files to sponsors. The resynchronization of the COB Contractor and MBD data will take place on Wednesday, August 25th. The issuance of the full replacement COB files to Part D sponsors will begin on Thursday, August 26th and continue until September 2nd. The process will be similar to the March 2010 process and will involve approximately 7-8 million beneficiary records. As with the March process, the full replacement file format and file name will be the same as the regular daily files. Therefore, the replacement files will be distinguishable only by their unusually large size.