



MEDICARE DRUG BENEFIT AND C&D DATA GROUP

DATE: November 21, 2013

TO: Medicare-Medicaid Plans in California and Virginia

FROM: Cynthia G. Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C&D Data Group

SUBJECT: Updated Information Regarding CY 2014 Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) Submissions by Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs) in California and Virginia

Since California and Virginia's Capitated Financial Alignment Demonstrations are expected to begin enrollment on April 1, 2014 and March 1, 2014, respectively, and Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs) in both these states may begin marketing on February 1, 2014, this memorandum provides updated information on the required resumption of CY 2014 biweekly drug pricing data submissions for display in the Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) tool on www.medicare.gov. In our July 24, 2013 HPMS memorandum, "Information Regarding CY 2014 Medicare Plan Finder (MPF) Submissions by Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs)," CMS announced a delay of the biweekly data pricing submissions for MMPs with contract effective dates in 2014. Having data displayed on the MPF is important because it allows beneficiaries to compare available plans based on the expected costs and coverage of their drugs.

MMPs in California and Virginia may submit CY 2014 drug pricing files at any time, and we recommend that they use the December 23-24, 2013 submission window as an additional practice opportunity for quality assurance review by CMS. However, MMPs in California and Virginia must submit drug pricing files no later than the **January 6-7, 2014** Plan Finder Pricing Data Submission Window. This timing will be sufficient to ensure there are no issues with these submissions prior to the February 2014 display of pricing data on MPF. We encourage earlier submission so that plans can resolve any issues that would result in suppression of drug pricing on MPF starting in February 2014. Plans should use the December 23-24, 2013 submission window as an additional practice opportunity for quality assurance review by CMS.

For more information about the pricing file requirements, please refer to the CY 2014 Pricing Data Guidelines located at: http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prescription-Drug-Coverage/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/RxContracting_FormularyGuidance.html in the download called "2014 Pricing Data Guidelines and Calendar (V04.30.13)." Organizations may also contact the DRx help desk for additional information. DRx's help desk information is plancompare@drx.com or 888-203-8497. The DRx help desk is available between the hours of 8:30AM and 6:30PM ET.