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DATE: October 31, 2024

TO: All Medicare Advantage, Cost Plans, Demonstrations, and PACE Organizations

FROM: Vanessa S. Duran
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SUBJECT: Availability of 2023 Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) Baseline Reports and 2023 Medicare HOS-Modified (HOS-M) Reports and Electronic Data

This memo announces availability of the *2023 Medicare HOS Cohort 26 Baseline Reports* for participating Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs), Cost Plans, and Demonstrations, and the *2023 Medicare HOS-M Reports* and electronic data for Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) organizations that continue to participate in the program.

2023 Medicare HOS Cohort 26 Baseline Report

The *2023 Medicare HOS Cohort 26 Baseline Report* includes results from the Medicare HOS 3.0, as administered in 2023 (see the May 18, 2022 HPMS memo “Reporting Requirements for HEDIS[®] Measurement Year (MY) 2022, HOS, and CAHPS[®] Measures, and Information Regarding HOS and HOS-M for Frailty”). The HOS Baseline Report provides information to help plans identify opportunities for improvement. Information is displayed that indicates where health plans are performing better or worse than the national average. Aggregate and state-level information is provided to MAOs for internal review. Also included in each report zip file is a summary data file with contract-level responses to each HOS question, summary measures, and demographic data related to the report.

2023 Medicare HOS-M Report

The Medicare HOS-M, an abbreviated version of the Medicare HOS, assesses the physical and mental health functioning of enrollees in PACE organizations and generates information for payment adjustment. The *2023 HOS-M Report* focuses on specialized plans serving frail and elderly beneficiaries, and provides a summary of demographic information, physical and mental health status, and selected health status measures compared to national averages. CMS encourages each participating PACE organization to examine their results for use in quality improvement activities.

Distribution of Baseline and HOS-M Reports

Report distribution to participating organizations occurs through HPMS. To access your organization's reports in HPMS, from the top navigation bar select "Quality and Performance," then "HOS," then "Reports," then the specific report type from the dashboard. Baseline Reports for Cohorts 23-26 and HOS-M Reports for 2020-2023 are currently available in HPMS. All participating organizations are encouraged to examine their results and may visit the HOS website at www.HOSonline.org for information, webinars, and additional resources addressing how the HOS data can be used to target quality improvement activities. Please note that if your organization did not participate in the 2023 Cohort 26 Baseline or the 2023 HOS-M, there are no plan-specific reports for your organization.

Distribution of 2023 HOS-M Data

Participating PACE organizations may obtain their 2023 Medicare HOS-M beneficiary-level data from the Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) by contacting HOS Information and Technical Support at hos@hsag.com. Please provide your organization's designated recipient of these data, your plan's mailing address, the recipient's e-mail address, return telephone number, and CMS contract number(s). The data are available for distribution to PACE organizations at no cost and will be delivered via secure file transfer, formatted as an encrypted CSV (comma-separated values) file.

For general and technical questions about the reports and data, please contact hos@hsag.com or (888) 880-0077. To ask a program or policy question, please email hos@cms.hhs.gov. For a general overview of the Medicare HOS program, visit the CMS HOS website at www.cms.gov/hos. A full description of the HOS program that includes links to research data files, data users guides, how HOS data are used, and additional information may be found at www.HOSonline.org.