

~ Updates on HPMS Memos ~

CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Coordinating State Passive Enrollment with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Reassignment for January 2019 – Dated 7/27/2018
Summary	CMS provided information on coordinating states’ passive enrollment activities with Medicare’s annual reassignment process for states implementing demonstrations under the capitated model of the Financial Alignment Initiative. Specific timeframes on the passive enrollment is listed.
Action	Informational to PACE.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Invitation to Provide Feedback to the Contract Year 2019 Formulary Submission – Dated 7/27/2018
Summary	CMS is looking for feedback on the CY 2019 formulary submission process in HPMS. The feedback period will take place from July 30, 2018 through August 3, 2018 . HPMS access is not required to submit feedback via the online application.
Action	Informational to PACE. For individuals interested in providing feedback, refer to the memo for complete details.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Annual Release of Part D National Average Bid Amount and Other Part C & D Bid Information – Dated 7/31/2018
Summary	CMS provided the determination of the amounts for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part D Beneficiary Premium • Part D National Average Monthly Bid Amount • Part D Regional Low-Income Premium Subsidy Amounts • Part D Income Monthly Adjustment Amounts • De Minimis Amount • Medicare Advantage EGWP regional payment rates • Medicare Advantage Regional Benchmarks
Action	Informational to PACE. Refer to the memo for items that may be applicable to your plan.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug System (MARx) August 2018 Payment – INFORMATION – Dated 7/31/2018
Summary	CMS released information about the August payment and other payment related items that may require plan action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Software Release for MARx • 2018 Mid-Year Risk Adjustment Reconciliation

Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second 2016 Final Risk Adjustment Reconciliation • Number of Uncovered Months Resent Record Data Cleanup • 2017 Interim Final Model Run ESRD Model Output Reports <p>Informational to PACE plans. Refer to memo for items applicable to your plan.</p>
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Enrollment Guidance Policy Changes and Updates for Contract Year 2019 – Dated 7/31/2018
Summary	CMS provided guidance and enrollment form/model notice updates for contract year 2019 to the Medicare Managed Care Manual and Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual.
Action	Informational to PACE. Refer to the memo for items that may be applicable to your plan.
CMS Email Title & Release Date	Coverage Gap Discount Program: August Participating Labeler Code – Dated 8/1/2018
Summary	CMS will update the below participating manufacturer labeler codes for the Coverage Gap Discount Program by August 1, 2018 to include 00254 Par Pharmaceutical.
Action	Although the Coverage Gap Discount Program does not apply to PACE, the participating labeler codes are applicable because only brand name prescriptions with NDCs from these codes are accepted for Part D payment. Pharmastar will make the necessary software adjustments to accommodate for the change.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Guidance on the Process for Implementing Passive Enrollment Flexibilities to Protect Continuity of Integrated Care for Dual Eligible Beneficiaries – Dated 8/1/2018
Summary	CMS provided guidance to the specified integrated Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans on the new passive enrollment authority established in CMS-4182-F.
Action	Informational to PACE as the memo is specific to Special Needs Plans and does not apply to PACE.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	2019 National MMP Enrollment Guidance & Exhibits – Dated 8/2/2018
Summary	The Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office completed and finalized the MMP National Enrollment Guidance & Exhibits. The guidance will be effective January 1, 2019 . A list of the key policy/operational flexibilities that have been updated since 2017 is provided.
Action	Informational to PACE.

CMS Memo Title & Release Date	CY2019 Final Actuarial Certification Deadline – Dated 8/2/2018
Summary	As part of the CY 2019 bid submission requirements, an actuarial certification must be submitted via the HPMS actuarial certification module for every Bid Pricing Tool uploaded to HPMS. Certifying actuaries were required to complete the initial certification process in June and all final certifications are to be completed by August 13, 2018 . If a certification is not submitted via HPMS, the bid(s) will not be considered for CMS review or approval.
Action	PACE plans should review the status of this requirement with their actuaries. Refer to the memo for complete details.

CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Contract Year 2019 Marketing and Beneficiary Communications Guidance for Medicare-Medicaid Plans – Dated 8/3/2018
Summary	CMS issued the Medicare Communications and Marketing Guidelines for CY 2019. A link to the webpage is provided. The sections modified in the CY 2019 guidelines is listed.
Action	Informational to PACE.

CMS Memo Title & Release Date	2018 Medicare Health Outcomes Survey HPMS Update – Dated 8/3/2018
Summary	The following reports and data for Medicare managed care plans participating in the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey are now available through HPMS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2015-2017 Cohort 18 Medicare HOS Performance Measurement Report • 2015-2017 Cohort 18 Medicare HOS Star Ratings Validation • 2015-2017 Cohort 18 Medicare HOS Aggregate Score Analysis
Action	Informational to PACE. PACE does not participate in the HOS survey. The Health Outcomes Survey-Modified (HOS-M) reports for 2014-2017 are also available in HPMS for PACE plans who participated in the program.

CMS Email Title & Release Date	Retail Pharmacy Network Access and Preferred Cost-Sharing Pharmacy Access Analysis Results for Q2 CY 2018 – Dated 8/6/2018
Summary	CMS completed the retail pharmacy access analysis for Quarter 2 CY 2018 which is now available in HPMS for review. CMS gives plans the opportunity to review the data and submit questions and/or concerns prior to the data being publish.

Action	Informational to PACE. The pathlink to the data is provided.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Prior Authorization and Step Therapy for Part B Drugs in Medicare Advantage – Dated 8/7/2018
Summary	CMS issued new guidance for Medicare Advantage (MA) plans on the use of step therapy for Part B drugs, beginning of January 1, 2019 , as part of a patient-centered care coordination program. CMS acknowledges the use of step therapy for Part B drugs as a recognized utilization management tool and to help lower drug prices. MA plans may apply step therapy to control utilization of services that does not create an undue access barrier for beneficiaries. CMS does encourage MAPD plans to use their pharmacies and P&T committees to determine when it is appropriate to use step therapy for selected drugs in Part B.
Action	Informational to PACE plans that utilizes a formulary. Refer to the memo for complete details.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Re-Determination of Part D Low-income Subsidy Eligibility for 2019 – Dated 8/7/2018
Summary	CMS provided organizations with information and guidance on re-determination of LIS eligibility and the responsibility of plans to conduct outreach to members who no longer automatically qualify for LIS in 2019.
Action	Applicable to PACE. Refer to the memo for guidance and plan responsibilities.
CMS Memo Title & Release Date	Submission Template – CY 2019 Opioid Safety Edit and Participation in Drug Management Programs – Dated 8/8/2019
Summary	CMS provided information regarding the template plans should utilize to submit information about CY 2019 opioid point-of-sale safety edits and implementation of a drug management program to CMS. Plans are to complete the template and submit via HPMS to CMS between August 20, 2018 to August 27, 2018 at 5 PM EST .
Action	Applicable to PACE plans if they adjudicate claims at the point-of-sale. Refer to the memo for complete details. Pharmastar will work with software claims processor on how the edits will be implemented. An email to all active Pharmastar PACE plans on how to complete the template is forthcoming.

<p>CMS Memo Title & Release Date</p>	<p>First Plan Preview of 2019 Star Ratings Data – Dated 8/8/2018</p>
<p>Summary</p>	<p>CMS inform plans the opportunity to preview their Star Ratings data in HPMS. The first plan preview will be held from August 9-17, 2018. The second plan preview will be conducted in September. Plans should notify CMS of any data issues or errors to allow sufficient time for CMS to investigate and process the data corrections.</p>
<p>Action</p>	<p>Informational to PACE as PACE plans do not participant in the MA plan Star Ratings.</p>
<p>CMS Email Title & Release Date</p>	<p>2018 Call Center Monitoring – Availability of Performance Metrics for Accuracy and Accessibility Study – Dated 8/9/2018</p>
<p>Summary</p>	<p>The following two data sets for the 2018 Performance Metrics for Accuracy and Accessibility Study will be available for Plans to review within the next few days in HPMS: -Call center accuracy and accessibility performance metrics data -Call level raw data</p>
<p>Action</p>	<p>Informational to PACE. Refer to the email for complete details. Plans may access the performance metrics in HPMS by following the pathlink provided.</p>
<p>CMS Memo Title & Release Date</p>	<p>2019 Full Risk Contract Option Election – Dated 8/9/2018</p>
<p>Summary</p>	<p>CMS reminds plans that they have the choice of payment options for enrollees who have 12 months of entitlement to Part a and less than 12 months of Part B enrollment during the data collection year. Plans can be paid for these enrollees as either “full risk” or “new enrollee” beneficiaries. Plans can choose this option for their Part C and Part D risk scores. Organizations that wish to confirm the status of their Full Risk Option election can access the Full Risk Contract Option Election Data in HPMS by September 21, 2018.</p>
<p>Action</p>	<p>Applicable to PACE. Refer to the memo for complete details and additional information.</p>

Important Date Reminders

Date	Item
August 20, 2018 – August 27, 2018 5pm EDT	CY 2019 Opioid Point-of-Sale Safety Edits Template Submission
August 31, 2018	Deadline for plans to review and update current Opioid POS beneficiary-specific claim edit information in MARx.
Mid-August-Mid-September 2018*	2017 Attestations of PDE, DIR Data, P2P Reconciliation Payments and Detailed DIR Report Submission Period
January 1, 2019	Preclusion List Requirement Begins
<i>*Subject to change, forthcoming information to be release by CMS.</i>	

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