DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

Medicare Plan Payment Group

DATE: August 28, 2012

TO: PACE Organizations

FROM: Cheri Rice /s/
Director

SUBJECT: PACE Encounter Data System (EDS) Front-End Industry Testing Schedule

Please be informed that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Encounter Data System (EDS) Front-End Industry Testing schedule has been provided and will run from August 30, until October 30, 2012. PACE organizations are required to submit claims based encounters only and follow the instructions provided in the EDS Companion Guides located on the CSSC website (www.csscoperations.com). Following the PACE Front-End Industry Testing, PACE Institutional, Professional, and DME Encounter Data Processing System (EDPS) testing will occur from September 1, 2012 until February 28, 2013 as outlined below:

PACE CERTIFICATION TIMELINE

Testing System	Testing Begins	Testing Requirement	Testing Ends/Deadline for Certification
Front-End	8/30/12	25-50 unique encounters per file per Submitter ID	10/30/12
Institutional Encounter Testing	9/1/12	9 Test Cases (2 encounters per test case)	11/15/12
Professional Encounter Testing	11/16/12	14 Test Cases (2 encounters per test case)	12/31/12
DME Encounter Testing	1/1/13	6 Test Cases (2 encounters per test case)	2/28/13

Encounter data submission in 2012 is contingent on successful end-to-end testing and certification. Additional information on the submission and processing of PACE test files can be found on the CSSC website (www.csscoperations.com).

Your participation is crucial to CMS' efforts to ensure the successful implementation of EDS.
If you have any questions, please contact the CSSC, at 1-877-534-CSSC (2772) or by e-mail at CSSCOperations@PalmettoGBA.com.