



## RESOURCE GUIDE

### About this Guide

This Resource Guide is intended to help Medicare Advantage (MA) organizations, providers, physicians, and third party submitters locate information specific to risk adjustment.

The purpose of this Resource Guide is to identify and supply resources that will simplify and clarify both the terminology and the processes employed in the submission of risk adjustment data. An emphasis is given to recent, policy-relevant material.

This Resource Guide is a helpful tool for those who need a quick reference for technical concepts, or for those who need to provide employees with an introductory presentation to the risk adjustment data process. Where possible and appropriate, "screen shots" of important resources on the Internet have been included. These pages may also be utilized as a suitable visual aid for risk adjustment data instructors to enhance their presentation.

The information listed in the Resource Guide is arranged in seven sections:

- RISK ADJUSTMENT ACRONYMS AND TERMS
- CMS WEB RESOURCES
- CMS REFERENCE DOCUMENTS
- CSSC WEB RESOURCES
- CSSC REFERENCE DOCUMENTS
- APPLICATION FOR ACCESS

### GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

**CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS)** - <http://cms.hhs.gov>

**CMS Contacts for Technical Issues**

Henry Thomas: [henry.thomas@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:henry.thomas@cms.hhs.gov)

Stephen Calfo: [stephen.calfo@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:stephen.calfo@cms.hhs.gov)

Sean Creighton: [sean.creighton@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:sean.creighton@cms.hhs.gov)

**CUSTOMER SERVICE AND SUPPORT CENTER (CSSC)** – <http://www.csscooperations.com>

The CSSC website provides "one-stop shopping" for MA organizations regarding risk adjustment data submission needs. Visit [www.csscooperations.com](http://www.csscooperations.com) to register for email updates from the CSSC. The updates will serve as notification that new or updated information has been added to the website.

**CSSC Contact Information**

877-534-2772 (toll-free)

[csscooperations@palmettogba.com](mailto:csscooperations@palmettogba.com)

**LEADING THROUGH CHANGE, INC. (LTC, INC.)**

For general questions about training and Risk Adjustment User Groups, please email Leading Through Change, Inc. at [TARegistration@tarsc.info](mailto:TARegistration@tarsc.info).

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**RISK ADJUSTMENT  
ACRONYMS AND TERMS**

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**RISK ADJUSTMENT ACRONYMS AND TERMS**

| <b>ACRONYM</b>      | <b>TERM</b>   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>AAPC</b>         | American Academy of Professional Coders                                 |
| <b>ACR</b>          | Adjusted Community Rates  |
| <b>ACRP</b>         | Adjusted Community Rate Proposal  |
| <b>ADS</b>          | Alternative Data Sources  |
| <b>ADL</b>          | Activities of Daily Living  |
| <b>AGNS</b>         | AT&T Global Network Services  |
| <b>AHA</b>          | American Hospital Association   |
| <b>AHIMA</b>        | American Health Information Management Association                      |
| <b>AMA</b>          | American Medical Association  |
| <b>ANSI</b>         | American National Standards Institute                                   |
| <b>ANSI X12 837</b> | Variable Length File Format for Electronic Submission of Encounter Data |
| <b>ASC</b>          | Ambulatory Surgical Center  |
| <b>BBA</b>          | Balanced Budget Act of 1997   |
| <b>BBRA</b>         | Balanced Budget Refinement Act 1999                                     |
| <b>BIC</b>          | Beneficiary Identification Code   |
| <b>BIPA</b>         | Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000                         |
| <b>CAD</b>          | Coronary Artery Disease   |
| <b>CFO</b>          | Chief Financial Officer   |
| <b>CHF</b>          | Congestive Heart Failure  |
| <b>CMHC</b>         | Community Mental Health Center  |
| <b>CMS</b>          | Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services                                |
| <b>CMS-HCC</b>      | CMS Refined Hierarchical Condition Category Risk Adjustment Model       |
| <b>COPD</b>         | Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease                                   |
| <b>CPT</b>          | Current Procedural Terminology  |
| <b>CSSC</b>         | Customer Service and Support Center                                     |
| <b>CVD</b>          | Cerebrovascular Disease   |
| <b>CWF</b>          | Common Working File   |
| <b>CY</b>           | Calendar Year   |
| <b>DCP</b>          | Data Collection Period  |
| <b>DDE</b>          | Direct Data Entry   |
| <b>DHHS</b>         | Department of Health & Human Services                                   |
| <b>DM</b>           | Diabetes Mellitus   |
| <b>DME</b>          | Durable Medical Equipment   |
| <b>DOB</b>          | Date of Birth   |
| <b>DoD</b>          | Department of Defense   |
| <b>DOS</b>          | Dates of Service  |
| <b>DRG</b>          | Diagnosis Related Group   |
| <b>DX</b>           | Diagnosis   |
| <b>EDI</b>          | Electronic Data Interchange   |
| <b>ESRD</b>         | End-Stage Renal Disease   |
| <b>ET</b>           | Eastern Time  |
| <b>FERAS</b>        | Front-End Risk Adjustment System  |
| <b>FFS</b>          | Fee for Service   |
| <b>FQHC</b>         | Federally Qualified Health Center                                       |
| <b>FTP</b>          | File Transfer Protocol  |
| <b>GUI</b>          | Graphical User Interface  |
| <b>H#</b>           | MA Organization CMS Contract Number                                     |
| <b>HCC</b>          | Hierarchical Condition Category   |
| <b>HCFA 1500</b>    | Medicare Part B Claim Filing Form                                       |
| <b>HCPCS</b>        | Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System                               |
| <b>HEDIS</b>        | Health Plan Employer Data Information Set                               |



| ACRONYM                 | TERM  |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>HHS</b>              | Department of Health and Human Services   |
| <b>HIC#</b>             | Health Insurance Claim Number (Beneficiary Medicare ID#)                        |
| <b>HICN</b>             | Health Insurance Claim Number (Beneficiary Medicare ID#)                        |
| <b>HIPAA</b>            | Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act                             |
| <b>HMO</b>              | Health Maintenance Organization   |
| <b>HOS</b>              | Health Outcomes Survey  |
| <b>HPMS</b>             | Health Plan Management System   |
| <b>ICD-9-CM</b>         | International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification |
| <b>ICD-10-CM</b>        | International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification |
| <b>ICN</b>              | Internal Claim Number   |
| <b>IP</b>               | Internet Protocol   |
| <b>IVC</b>              | Initial Validation Contractor   |
| <b>JCAHO</b>            | Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations                  |
| <b>LTC</b>              | Leading Through Change, Inc.  |
| <b>MA</b>               | Medicare Advantage  |
| <b>MA-PD</b>            | Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan                                       |
| <b>MARx</b>             | Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug System                                     |
| <b>MBD</b>              | Medicare Beneficiary Database   |
| <b>M+C organization</b> | Medicare+Choice Organization  |
| <b>MCCOY</b>            | Managed Care Option Information System  |
| <b>MCO</b>              | Managed Care Organization   |
| <b>MDCN</b>             | Medicare Data Communications Network  |
| <b>MDS</b>              | Minimum Data Set  |
| <b>MMA</b>              | Medicare Prescription Drug Modernization Act of 2003                            |
| <b>MMCS</b>             | Medicare Managed Care System  |
| <b>MMR</b>              | Monthly Membership Report   |
| <b>MnDHO</b>            | Minnesota Disability Health Options   |
| <b>MOR</b>              | Model Output Report   |
| <b>MSA</b>              | Medical Savings Account   |
| <b>MSG</b>              | Message   |
| <b>MSHO</b>             | Minnesota Senior Health Options   |
| <b>NCH</b>              | National Claims History   |
| <b>NCHS</b>             | National Center for Health Statistics   |
| <b>NCPDP</b>            | National Council on Prescription Drug Program                                   |
| <b>NCQA</b>             | National Committee for Quality Assurance  |
| <b>NDM</b>              | Network Data Mover  |
| <b>NES</b>              | Not elsewhere classified  |
| <b>NMUD</b>             | National Medicare Utilization Database  |
| <b>NOS</b>              | Not otherwise specified   |
| <b>NPI</b>              | National Provider Identifier  |
| <b>NSF</b>              | National Standard Format  |
| <b>OIG</b>              | Office of Inspector General   |
| <b>OREC</b>             | Original Reason for Entitlement Code  |
| <b>Palmetto GBA</b>     | Palmetto Government Benefits Administrators                                     |
| <b>PACE</b>             | Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly                                   |
| <b>PCN</b>              | Patient Control Number  |
| <b>PHS</b>              | PACE Health Survey  |
| <b>PIP-DCG</b>          | Principal Inpatient Diagnostic Cost Group                                       |
| <b>PPO</b>              | Preferred Provider Organization   |
| <b>QIO</b>              | Quality Improvement Organization  |
| <b>RAPS</b>             | Risk Adjustment Processing System   |
| <b>RAPS Database</b>    | Risk Adjustment Processing System Database                                      |
| <b>RAS</b>              | Risk Adjustment System  |



| <b>ACRONYM</b> | <b>TERM</b>                                       |
|----------------|---|
| <b>RHC</b>     | Rural Health Clinic                               |
| <b>RPT</b>     | Report  |
| <b>RRB</b>     | Railroad Retirement Board                         |
| <b>RT</b>      | Record Type                                       |
| <b>RxHCC</b>   | Prescription Drug Hierarchical Condition Category |
| <b>SAS</b>     | Statistical Analysis Software                     |
| <b>SCO</b>     | MassHealth Senior Care Option                     |
| <b>SH#</b>     | Submitter CMS Contract Number                     |
| <b>S/HMO</b>   | Social Health Maintenance Organizations           |
| <b>SNF</b>     | Skilled Nursing Facility                          |
| <b>SSD</b>     | Selected Significant Disease Model                |
| <b>SSN</b>     | Social Security Number                            |
| <b>SUB ID</b>  | Submitter ID                                      |
| <b>SVC</b>     | Second Validation Contractor                      |
| <b>TOB</b>     | Type of Bill                                      |
| <b>UB-04</b>   | Uniform Billing Form 04                           |
| <b>VA</b>      | Veterans Administration                           |
| <b>WPP</b>     | Wisconsin Partnership Program                     |

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## **CMS WEB RESOURCES**

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**CMS Main Page**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov>

**Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2004 (45-Day Notice)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Advance2004.pdf>

**Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2004 Medicare+Choice Payment Rates (May 12, 2003)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2004.pdf>

**Cover Letter Regarding Revised Medicare Advantage Rates for Calendar Year (CY) 2004 (January 16, 2004)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2004b.pdf>

**Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2005 Medicare Advantage (MA) Payment Rates (45-Day Notice)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Advance2005.pdf>

**Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2006 Medicare Advantage (MA) Payment Rates (45-Day Notice)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Advance2006.pdf>

**Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2006 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates (April 4, 2005)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2006.pdf>

**Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2007 Medicare Advantage (MA) Payment Rates (45-Day Notice)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Advance2007.pdf>

**Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2007 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates (April 3, 2006)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2007.pdf>

**Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2008 Medicare Advantage (MA) Payment Rates (45-Day Notice)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Advance2008.pdf>

**Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2008 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates (April 2, 2007)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2008.pdf>

**Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2009 for Medicare Advantage (MA) Capitation Rates and Part D Payment Policies**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Advance2009.pdf>



**Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2009 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates  
(April 7, 2008)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2009.pdf>

**Medicare Managed Care Manual**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals>

(select Internet-Only Manuals, then select 100-16 Medicare Managed Care Manual)

**Rate Book Information**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/RSD/list.asp>

**Healthplans Page**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HealthPlansGenInfo/>

**Risk Adjustment Page**

[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/06\\_Risk\\_Adjustment.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/06_Risk_Adjustment.asp)

**Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Page**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HIPAAGenInfo/>

**Quarterly Provider Updates**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/QuarterlyProviderUpdates/>

**Official Coding Guidelines on Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Website**

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd9/icdguide.pdf>

**Risk Adjustment Model Output Report Letter**

<http://csscooperations.com/new/references/cmsinstructions.html>

**Medicare Advantage (MA) Prescription Drug Plans Plan Communications User's  
Guide**

[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MMAHelp/02\\_Plan\\_Communications\\_User\\_Guide.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MMAHelp/02_Plan_Communications_User_Guide.asp#TopOfPage)

**Individuals with Access to CMS Systems (IACS) User Guide and Website**

[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MMAHelp/07\\_IACS.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MMAHelp/07_IACS.asp#TopOfPage)

**Reference to Types of Facilities and Taxonomy Codes**

<http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes/taxonomy>



## **CMS Call Letters (Finals)**

**2005:**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ACR/Downloads/CallLetter.pdf>

**Overview 2006 & 2007:**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/BenePriceBidFormPlanPackage/01Overview.asp#TopOfPage>

**2006:**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/BenePriceBidFormPlanPackage/02Bid2006.asp#TopOfPage>

**2007:**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/BenePriceBidFormPlanPackage/03Bid2007.asp#TopOfPage>

**2008:**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/Downloads/CallLetter.pdf>

**2009:**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/prescriptionDrugCocContra/Downloads/CallLetter.pdf>

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## **CMS REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

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## **Health Plan Management System (HPMS)**

HPMS is a CMS information system created specifically for the Medicare Advantage program that provides MA organization level information.

### **Accessing HPMS**

- Access to HPMS is accomplished via the Medicare Data Communications Network (MDCN).
- A User ID is required for HPMS access. If you do not currently have access, complete the "Access to CMS Computer Systems" form available at [www.cms.hhs.gov/InformationSecurity/Downloads/EUAccessform.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/InformationSecurity/Downloads/EUAccessform.pdf) or at the end of this Resource Guide.

If MA organizations experience difficulty logging into HPMS, please contact Don Freeburger ([don.freeburger@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:don.freeburger@cms.hhs.gov)) 410-786-4586 or Neetu Jhagwani ([neetu.jhagwani@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:neetu.jhagwani@cms.hhs.gov)) 410-786-2548.

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## Risk Adjustment Implementation

(Attachment A – Risk Adjustment Implementation excerpt from 2009 Final Call Letter – March 17 2008, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/Downloads/CallLetter.pdf>)

### 1. Risk Adjustment Data Submission Schedule

Table 1. Risk Adjustment Implementation Calendar (below) provides the updated submission schedule for all diagnosis data submitted for all risk adjustment models. This includes data for both the Part C CMS-HCC and ESRD models and the Part D Drug risk adjustment model.

**Table 1. Risk Adjustment Implementation Calendar**

| CY   | Dates of Service                          | Initial Submission Deadline* | First Payment Date | Final Submission Deadline |
|------|---|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 2008 | July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007        | September 7, 2007            | January 1, 2008    | N/A**                     |
| 2008 | January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 | March 7, 2008                | July 1, 2008       | January 31, 2009          |
| 2009 | July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008        | September 5, 2008            | January 1, 2009    | N/A**                     |
| 2009 | January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 | March 6, 2009                | July 1, 2009       | January 31, 2010          |
| 2010 | July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009        | September 4, 2009            | January 1, 2010    | N/A**                     |
| 2010 | January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 | March 5, 2010                | July 1, 2010       | January 31, 2011          |
| 2011 | July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010        | September 3, 2010            | January 1, 2011    | N/A**                     |
| 2011 | January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 | March 4, 2011                | July 1, 2011       | January 31, 2012          |

\*March and September dates reflect the first Friday of the respective month.

\*\*All risk adjustment data for a given payment year (CY) must be submitted by January 31st of the subsequent year.

Changes in payment methodology for 2009, including Part C and Part D payment and risk adjustment, are described in the February 22, 2009, *Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2009 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates* and the April 7, 2009, *Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2009 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates* (available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/>).

### 2. Part A Risk Adjustment Factor Options

- Determinations of Risk Status**

As stated in the April 3, 2006 *Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2007 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates* (available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/>), plans subject to risk adjusted payments have an option for how to treat beneficiaries with 12 months of Part A data but less than 12 months of Part B enrollment in a data collection year.

**Table 2. Which Risk Adjustment Factors to Apply to Payment\***

| Time Period Beneficiary Has Been Enrolled in Part B Medicare** | Time Period Beneficiary Has Been Entitled to Benefits under Part A Medicare** |   |
|--|---|---|
|  | 0 - 11 months   | ≥ 12 months   |
| 0 – 11 months  | New enrollee factors  | Plan's option: New enrollee or full risk adjustment factors |
| ≥ 12 months  | Full risk adjustment factors  | Full risk adjustment factors                                |

\*Applies to Part C and D payments for MA plans, demonstrations, and PACE organizations. Note that MA enrollees must be entitled to benefits under Part A and enrolled in Part B.

\*\*During data collection period (previous calendar year).

*Table 2. Which Risk Adjustment Factors to Apply to Payment (above)* illustrates that beneficiaries with 12 or more months of Medicare Part B enrollment during the data collection period (previous calendar year) are considered full risk enrollees. The new enrollee factors do not apply.

Beneficiaries with less than 12 months of entitlement to benefits under Part A and less than 12 months of Part B enrollment during the data collection period will be treated as new enrollees, as they are now.

Currently beneficiaries with 12 or more months of entitlement to benefits under Part A and less than 12 months of Part B enrollment during the data collection period (referred to as "Part A-only" enrollees) are considered new enrollees for the purpose of risk adjusted payments. Because of concerns expressed by some demonstrations that "Part A only" enrollees are always considered to be new enrollees, CMS has created an option for how the risk adjustment payments for this category of enrollees are determined. Effective as of 2006 payments, organizations may elect to have CMS determine payments for all "Part A-only" enrollees using either new enrollee factors or full risk adjustment factors. The organization's decision will be applied to all "Part A-only" enrollees in the plan. Plans may not elect to move some eligible "Part A-only" enrollees into risk adjustment, while retaining others as new enrollees.

- ***Option to Elect Full Risk Option for "Part A-only" Enrollees***

Effective as of 2006 payments, organizations may elect to have CMS determine payments for all "Part A-only" enrollees using either new enrollee factors or full risk adjustment factors. If an organization elects to have CMS determine payment factors (i.e., new enrollee factors or full risk adjustment factors) for all "Part-A only" enrollees, then -

- The decision will be applied to all "Part-A" only enrollees in the plan;
- The option elected will remain turned "on" until CMS is otherwise notified prior to August 31st of any successive year.

Plans interested in electing this option for 2009 must contact: Henry Thomas, CMS, at [henry.thomas@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:henry.thomas@cms.hhs.gov) by August 31, 2008.

### **3. Risk Adjustment Implementation**

MA organizations must review the following:

- Changes in payment methodology for 2009, including Part C and Part D payment and risk adjustment, are described in the February 22, 2009, *Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for Calendar Year (CY) 2009 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates and Part D Payment Policies* and the April 7, 2009, *Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2009 Medicare Advantage Capitation Rates and Payment Policies and CY 2009 Part D Payment Notification* (available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/>).
- Two important risk adjustment memoranda dated November 27, 2007, which were published via HPMS on November 28, 2007 -
  - o CMS implementation of ICD-9 diagnosis codes for 2009 CMS implementation of ICD-9 diagnosis codes for 2009
  - o Medicaid status for Part C and D risk adjustment and Part D cost sharing; and

For additional information on risk adjustment, see 42 CFR §422.310.

#### **4. Impact of Hospital Acquired Conditions under the Inpatient Prospective Payment System on Diagnoses Reporting for Risk Adjustment**

For purposes of risk adjustment, MA organizations are required to submit discharge diagnoses from hospital inpatient settings. To the extent that any ICD-9 codes attributable to the eight selected hospital acquired conditions (surgical site infections, blood incompatibility, air embolism, object left in surgery, catheter associated urinary tract infections, pressure ulcers, hospital acquired injuries, or vascular catheter associated infection) appear in the discharge diagnoses, these codes may be submitted for risk adjustment payment.

#### **5. National Provider Identifier (NPI)**

The January 23, 2004 final rule (69 FR 3434), *HIPAA Administrative Simplification: Standard Unique Health Identifier for Health Care Providers*, established the standard for a unique identifier for health care providers and adopted the National Provider Identifier (NPI) number as that standard. The National Provider System (NPS) was established to assign unique NPI numbers to health care providers. The NPS was designed to be used by other Federal and state Agencies as well as by private health plans, if deemed appropriate, to enumerate their health care providers that did not participate in Medicare. Consequently, the NPI can not be used to determine whether a provider is a Medicare certified provider.

On May 23, 2007, the CMS implemented the use of the NPI, for claims submitted to Fee-For-Service (Original) Medicare and discontinued issuing the Medicare Provider Identifier Numbers (legacy or OSCAR numbers). In the past, Medicare plans could use the legacy number to verify that a provider was a Medicare provider and that the provider was an acceptable source for diagnosis data for the CMS risk adjustment process.

Implementation of the NPI necessitates that Medicare plans that had been using the legacy Medicare provider numbers to verify the source of diagnoses submitted for risk adjustment purposes establish new methodologies for determining: 1) that providers are Medicare certified and 2) that diagnosis sources are acceptable. Implementation of the NPI does not change the requirement for Medicare plans to verify that the diagnosis data submitted to the CMS for risk adjustment are from Medicare certified providers and from acceptable data sources.

#### **6. Testing Requirements**

Submitter testing is required to ensure the proper flow of data from the Submitter to the Risk Adjustment Processing System (RAPS). Testing also ensures the data submitted is valid and formatted correctly.

If you would like to send data in a test format, please contact the Customer Service and Support Center (CSSC) Help Line at (877) 534-2772. By calling the CSSC Help Line prior to transmission of your first production or test file, a CSSC representative will be able to give you information on how to properly submit a test and/or production file. Information regarding the CSSC and the Risk Adjustment Processing System (RAPS) is available on the CSSC web site at <http://www.csscooperations.com/>.

## **7. Acceptable Provider Types and Physician Data Sources**

For purposes of risk adjustment, MA organizations must collect data from the following provider types:

- Hospital inpatient facilities
- Hospital outpatient facilities
- Physician.

In addition, only those physician specialties and other clinical specialists identified in Table 3 – Acceptable Physician Data Sources of the Medicare Advantage, Medicare Advantage-Prescription Drug Plans CY 2007 Instructions (dated April 4, 2006) are acceptable for risk adjustment. To obtain a copy of this document, please visit the CMS web site at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/healthplansgeninfo/downloads/Rev%20MA-MAPD%20call%20letter%20final.pdf>. Note that registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and nursing assistants are not included in Table 3 – Acceptable Physician Data Sources as they are unacceptable physician data sources.

MA organizations are responsible for ensuring that the data they collect and submit to CMS for payment comes from acceptable provider types and physician data sources. The collection of physician data relevant for risk adjustment is associated with the physician's specialty. That is, all ICD-9-CM diagnoses that are in the risk adjustment model and rendered as a result of a visit to a physician must be collected by the MA organization. This includes data collected from non-network as well as network providers. Therefore, CMS requires MA organizations to filter and submit risk adjustment data in accordance with the appropriate provider types and acceptable physician data sources as approved by CMS.

## **8. Integrity of RAPS Submissions**

Although a plan may designate another entity to submit claims on its behalf to CMS, the plan remains responsible for data submission, accuracy and content. If your MA organization needs assistance or is experiencing data submission issues, please contact our Customer Service and Support Center (CSSC) at 1-877-534-2772 or <http://www.csscooperations.com/>.

## **9. IT Technical Assistance Outreach**

The purpose of the IT Technical Assistance Outreach program is to provide Part C and Part D contracted organizations with the IT support to perform the required Risk Adjustment, Prescription Data Event and Enrollment/Payment data submissions skills and to understand the roles data play in relationship to enrollment and payment. This outreach will enable these organizations to collect and submit the appropriate data in accordance with CMS requirements; thereby, this assistance's expected outcome seeks to provide a positive impact on "the correct payment." CMS offers Monthly Risk Adjustment and Enrollment/Payment outreach sessions at its Baltimore headquarters. We anticipate conducting our regional outreach sessions in August and September of 2008.

The specific dates for the monthly and regional outreach sessions will be announced during the Risk Adjustment (i.e., Part C) User Group sessions, and will be listed on our contractor's web site. For additional information or to register for the outreach sessions and the User Group sessions, please visit our contractor's web site at <http://www.TARSC.info>.

## **10. Risk Adjustment Data Validation**

42 CFR §422.310(e) requires MA organizations and their providers and practitioners to submit a sample of medical records for the validation of risk adjustment data, as required by CMS. CMS will increase emphasis on MA organization compliance with the medical record submission guidelines.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) conducts medical record reviews to validate the accuracy and integrity of the risk adjustment data submitted by the Medicare Advantage (MA) for payments. CMS selects MA organizations to participate in the medical record review based on a number of criteria. For example, some organizations are randomly selected while others are targeted; thus, every MA organization has a chance of being selected for validation.

Risk adjustment data validation is the process of verifying that diagnosis codes submitted for payment by the MA organization are supported by medical record documentation for an enrollee. The primary goals of risk adjustment data validation are to:

- Identify
  - Confirmed risk adjustment discrepancies
  - MA organizations in need of technical assistance to improve risk adjustment data quality
- Measure
  - Accuracy of risk adjustment data
  - Impact of discrepancies on payment
- Improve/Inform
  - Quality of risk adjustment data
  - The CMS-Hierarchical Condition Category (CMS-HCC) model.

### a. Missing Medical Records

If your MA organization is selected for inclusion in the data validation, your MA organization would be required to submit all necessary medical record documentation as requested within the allotted timeframe. Medical records not submitted to CMS within the required timeframe will be identified as "missing medical records." A missing medical record is a risk adjustment discrepancy. Risk adjustment data characterized as "discrepant" are used to evaluate the accuracy of payments to your MA organization. The results of the risk adjustment data validation will be used to develop an estimated payment error rate for your MA organization.

### b. Guiding Principle & Guidelines

Since implementation of the CMS-HCC model in 2004, we have included hospital inpatient, hospital outpatient, and physician medical records in our risk adjustment data validation. Additionally, we modified our Guiding Principle to account for acceptable provider types and physician data sources for medical record documentation. Our Guiding Principle now states:

The medical record documentation must show that the HCC diagnosis was assigned within the correct data collection period by an appropriate provider type (hospital inpatient, hospital outpatient, or physician) and an acceptable physician data source as defined in the CMS instructions for risk adjustment implementation. In addition, the diagnosis must be coded according to *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) Guidelines for Coding and Reporting*.

MA organizations are allowed flexibility to select and submit supporting medical record documentation when responding to a medical record request. Since plans are not required to submit multiple occurrences of a unique diagnosis for a given enrollee, a medical record from any risk adjustment data source would be acceptable. This means that the medical record submitted for validation could be based on an encounter other than the one for which the data were submitted.

According to the risk adjustment data validation guidelines:

- Enrollee risk adjustment records are selected for validation based on risk adjustment diagnoses submitted to the Risk Adjustment Processing System (RAPS).
- Since CMS does not collect provider identifiers for risk adjustment, MA organizations must be able to track and locate supporting medical record documentation for its providers.
- MA organizations must select the “one best medical record” to support each HCC identified for validation. This means the MA organizations decide whether to submit a hospital inpatient, hospital outpatient, or physician medical record when more than one type of record is available.
- The medical record documentation must support an HCC.
- Once a MA organization selects its “one best medical record,” a date of service must be identified to facilitate the medical record review process. CMS coders who review medical records will not search beyond the date of service identified in the medical record by the MA organization for review.
- Payment adjustments are based on confirmed risk adjustment discrepancies.
- An appeals process is in place to address a MA organization’s disagreement with a payment adjustment based on a confirmed risk adjustment discrepancy.

#### c. Acceptable Risk Adjustment Data Sources

CMS has provided a list of ambulatory services that are “non-covered services” and, therefore, are unacceptable for risk adjustment. (To obtain a copy of *Table 3C – Hospital Outpatient*, please visit the *2007 Risk Adjustment Data Training For Medicare Advantage Organizations, Participant Guide* available on our contractor’s web site at [http://www.csscooperations.com/new/usergroup/2007raps/ra-participantguide\\_120607.pdf](http://www.csscooperations.com/new/usergroup/2007raps/ra-participantguide_120607.pdf). However, we continue to receive inquiries about the use of two specific “non-covered services”—laboratory and diagnostic radiology—and their potential use in risk adjustment payment and data validation. Therefore, we would like to clarify the importance of associating risk adjustment data submission with valid clinical documentation for physician specialties.

MA organizations must not submit documentation from laboratory and diagnostic radiology services as a standalone medical record for data validation. This type of medical documentation is insufficient for coding purposes. The following ICD-9-CM guideline updated November 2006 (available on the CDC web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/datawh/ftp/ftpicd9/icdguide07.pdf>) clarifies the appropriate use of documentation from “non-covered source” providers for determining clinical significance:

Abnormal findings (laboratory, X-ray, pathologic, and other diagnostic results) are not coded and reported unless the physician indicates their clinical significance. If the findings are outside the normal range and the physician has ordered other tests to evaluate the condition or prescribed treatment, it is appropriate to ask the physician whether the diagnosis should be added.

The previous version from October 2002 included the above statement along with further clarification and examples:

The coder should not arbitrarily add an additional diagnosis to the final diagnostic statement on the basis of an abnormal laboratory finding alone. To make a diagnosis on the basis of a single lab value or abnormal diagnostic finding is risky and carries the possibility of error.

It is important to remember that a value reported either lower or higher than the normal range does not necessarily indicate a disorder. Many factors influence the value of a lab sample. These include the method used to obtain the sample (for example, a constricting tourniquet left in place for over a minute prior to collecting the sample will cause an elevated hematocrit and potassium level), the collection device, the method used to transport the sample to the lab, the calibration of the machine that reads the values, and the condition of the patient. An example is a patient who because of dehydration may show an elevated hemoglobin due to increased viscosity of the blood.

As stated above, it is inappropriate for MA organizations to submit a risk adjustment diagnosis and medical documentation on the sole basis of a “non-covered service.” Thus, we will identify documentation from “non-covered services” as “invalid” and, therefore, deem such documentation as a risk adjustment discrepancy.

Note that we will accept documentation from “non-covered services” provided the documentation is reviewed by the physician and the outcome of the physician’s review (i.e., diagnosis) is appropriately documented by the physician in the medical record. However, we will not accept for data validation documentation whereby a MA organization submits a diagnosis based on a laboratory service within the data collection period and physician medical record documentation that is outside of the data collection period.

For additional information on data validation, please visit the *2007 Risk Adjustment Data Training For Medicare Advantage Organizations, Participant Guide* available on our contractor’s web site at [http://www.csscooperations.com/new/usergroup/2007raps/ra-participantguide\\_120607.pdf](http://www.csscooperations.com/new/usergroup/2007raps/ra-participantguide_120607.pdf).

#### d. Signatures and Credentials

For purposes of risk adjustment data submission and validation, the MA organizations must ensure that the provider of service for face-to-face encounters is appropriately identified on medical records via their signature and physician specialty credentials. (Examples of acceptable physician signatures are: handwritten signature or initials; signature stamp that complies with state regulations; and electronic signature with authentication by the respective provider.) This means that the credentials for the provider of services must be somewhere on the medical record—either next to the provider’s signature or pre-printed with the provider’s name on the group practice’s stationery. If the provider of services is not listed on the stationery, then the credentials must be part of the signature for that provider. In these instances, the coders are able to determine that the beneficiary was evaluated by a physician or an acceptable physician data source. (For additional information on acceptable physician data sources, see the above section titled *Filtering for Acceptable Provider Types and Physician Data Sources*.)

We have identified medical records where it is unclear if the beneficiary is actually evaluated by a physician, physician extender, or other. In several cases, we have found encounters that are documented on physician’s stationery but appear to be signed by a non-physician provider. For example, a medical record appears on group stationery for a given date of service. The medical record is signed but the



provider's name and credentials are not furnished on the stationery. Thus, the coders are unable to determine whether the beneficiary was evaluated by a physician, medical student, nurse practitioner, registered nurse, or other provider. This type of medical record documentation is incomplete and unacceptable for risk adjustment and, therefore, will be counted as a risk adjustment discrepancy.



## **CSSC WEB RESOURCES**

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[WWW.CSSCOOPERATIONS.COM](http://www.csscooperations.com)

<http://www.csscooperations.com>



Operations - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

http://www.csscooperations.com/

**CMS** Palmetto GBA ABOUT CSSC HOW TO CONTACT US HOT TOPICS Other Links...

**Customer Service and Support Center**

Welcome to CSSC Operations

System Status

**Risk Adjustment Processing System RAPS**

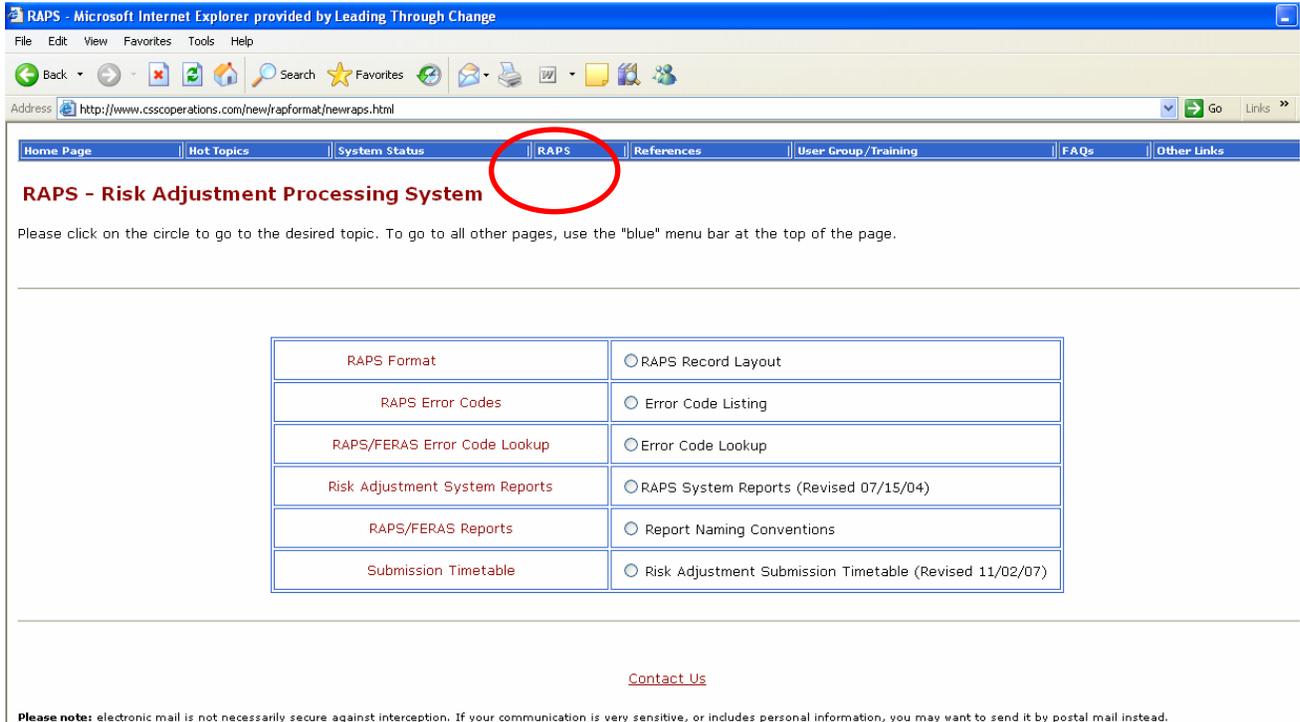
- [Register for Email Notifications](#)
- [Enroll to Submit Risk Adjustment Data](#)
- [Risk Adjustment Processing System \(RAPS\)](#)
- [Front-End Risk Adjustment System \(FERAS\)](#)
- [Official Links](#)
- [CMS Instructions](#)
- [Other References](#)
- [User Group Information](#)
- [Training Information](#)
- [Risk Adjustment Data FAQs](#)

**Prescription Drug Information Center PDIC**

- [Register for Email Notifications](#)
- [Enroll to Submit PDE](#)
- [Drug Data Processing System \(DDPS\)](#)
- [Prescription Drug Front-End System \(PDFS\)](#)
- [Edits](#)
- [Reports](#)
- [User Group Information](#)
- [Training Information](#)
- [CMS Instructions](#)
- [Official Links](#)
- [CMS FAQs and Responses](#)

### RAPS Resources

<http://cssoperations.com/new/rapformat/newraps.html>



**RAPS - Risk Adjustment Processing System**

Please click on the circle to go to the desired topic. To go to all other pages, use the "blue" menu bar at the top of the page.

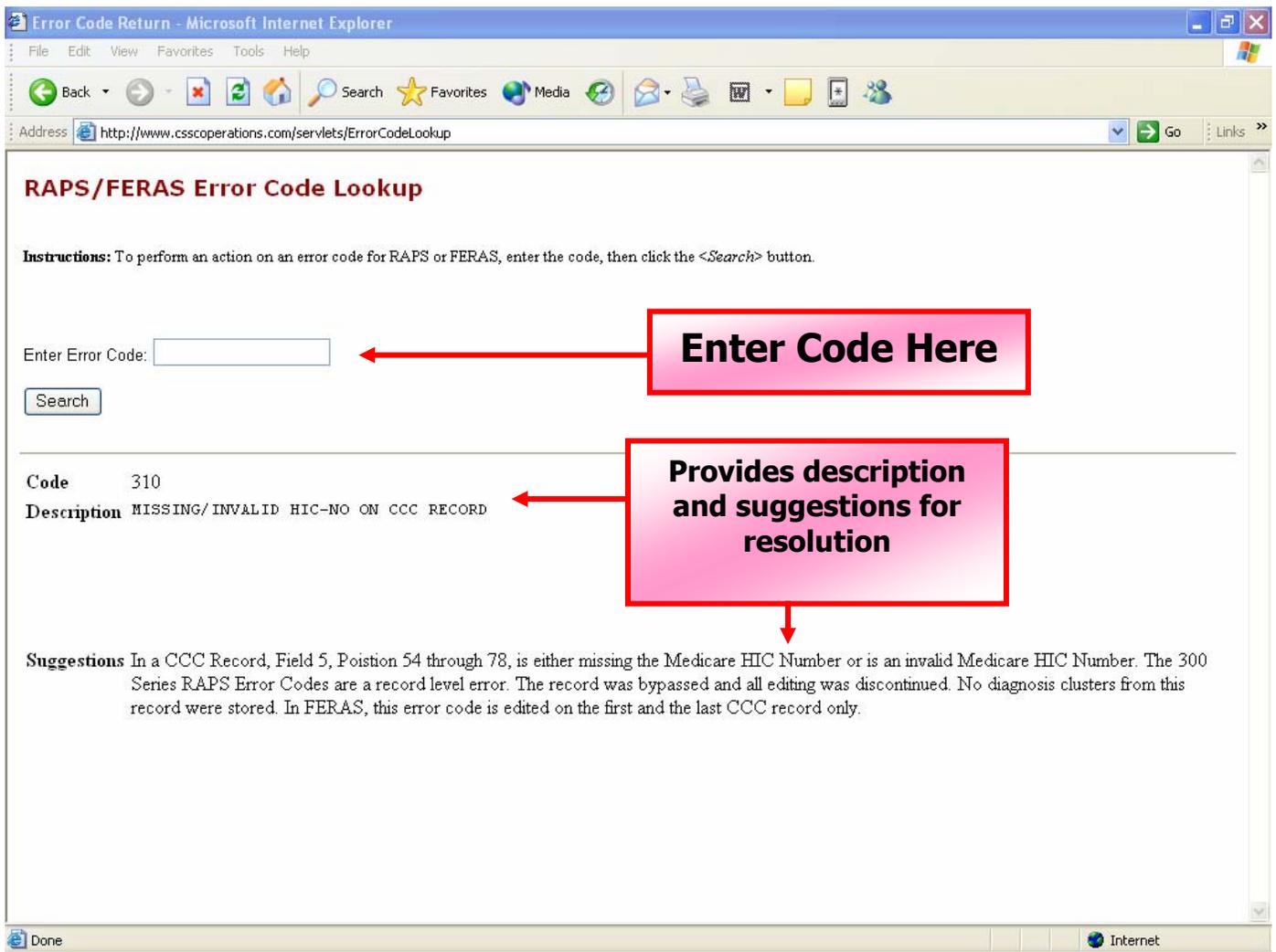
|  |   |
|--|---|
| <a href="#">RAPS Format</a>                    | <input type="radio"/> RAPS Record Layout                                      |
| <a href="#">RAPS Error Codes</a>               | <input type="radio"/> Error Code Listing                                      |
| <a href="#">RAPS/FERAS Error Code Lookup</a>   | <input type="radio"/> Error Code Lookup                                       |
| <a href="#">Risk Adjustment System Reports</a> | <input type="radio"/> RAPS System Reports (Revised 07/15/04)                  |
| <a href="#">RAPS/FERAS Reports</a>             | <input type="radio"/> Report Naming Conventions                               |
| <a href="#">Submission Timetable</a>           | <input type="radio"/> Risk Adjustment Submission Timetable (Revised 11/02/07) |

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## RAPS/FERAS Error Code Lookup

[http://www.mcoservice.com/new/errorcodelookup\\_052505.htm](http://www.mcoservice.com/new/errorcodelookup_052505.htm)



**Enter Code Here**

Enter Error Code:

Search

---

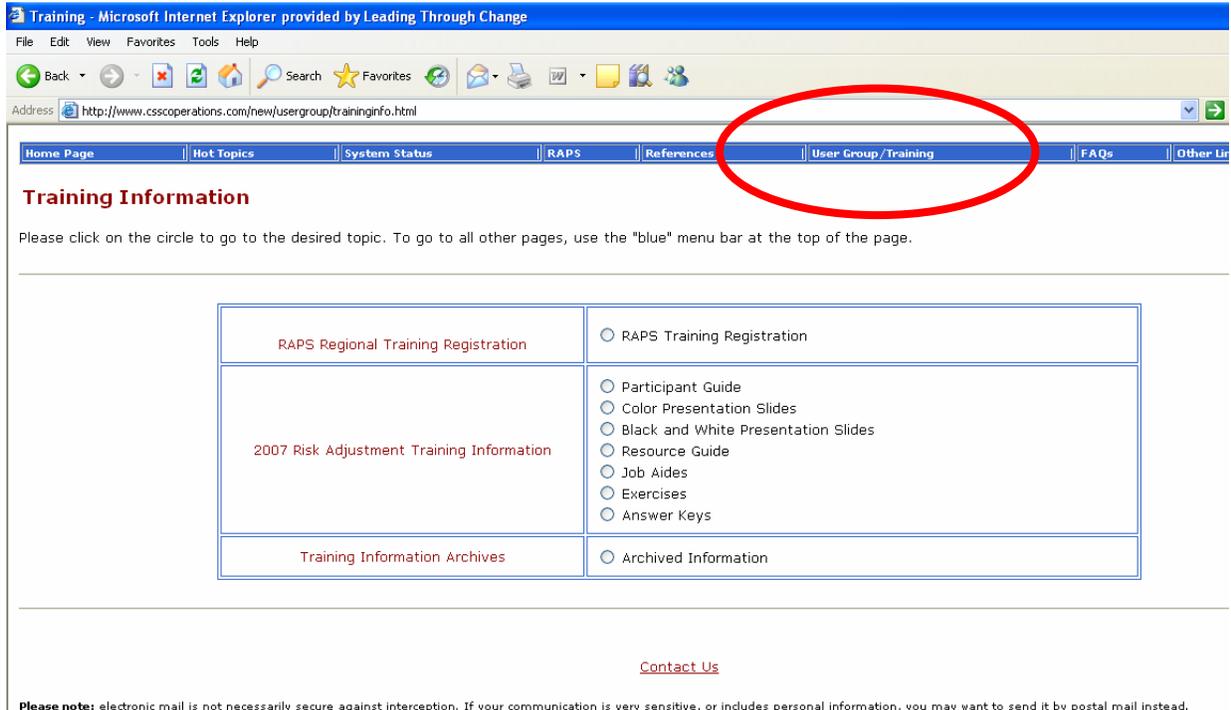
**Code** 310

**Description** MISSING/INVALID HIC-NO ON CCC RECORD

**Suggestions** In a CCC Record, Field 5, Position 54 through 78, is either missing the Medicare HIC Number or is an invalid Medicare HIC Number. The 300 Series RAPS Error Codes are a record level error. The record was bypassed and all editing was discontinued. No diagnosis clusters from this record were stored. In FERAS, this error code is edited on the first and the last CCC record only.

## Training Guides and Updates

<http://cssoperations.com/new/usergroup/traininginfo.html>



**Training Information**

Please click on the circle to go to the desired topic. To go to all other pages, use the "blue" menu bar at the top of the page.

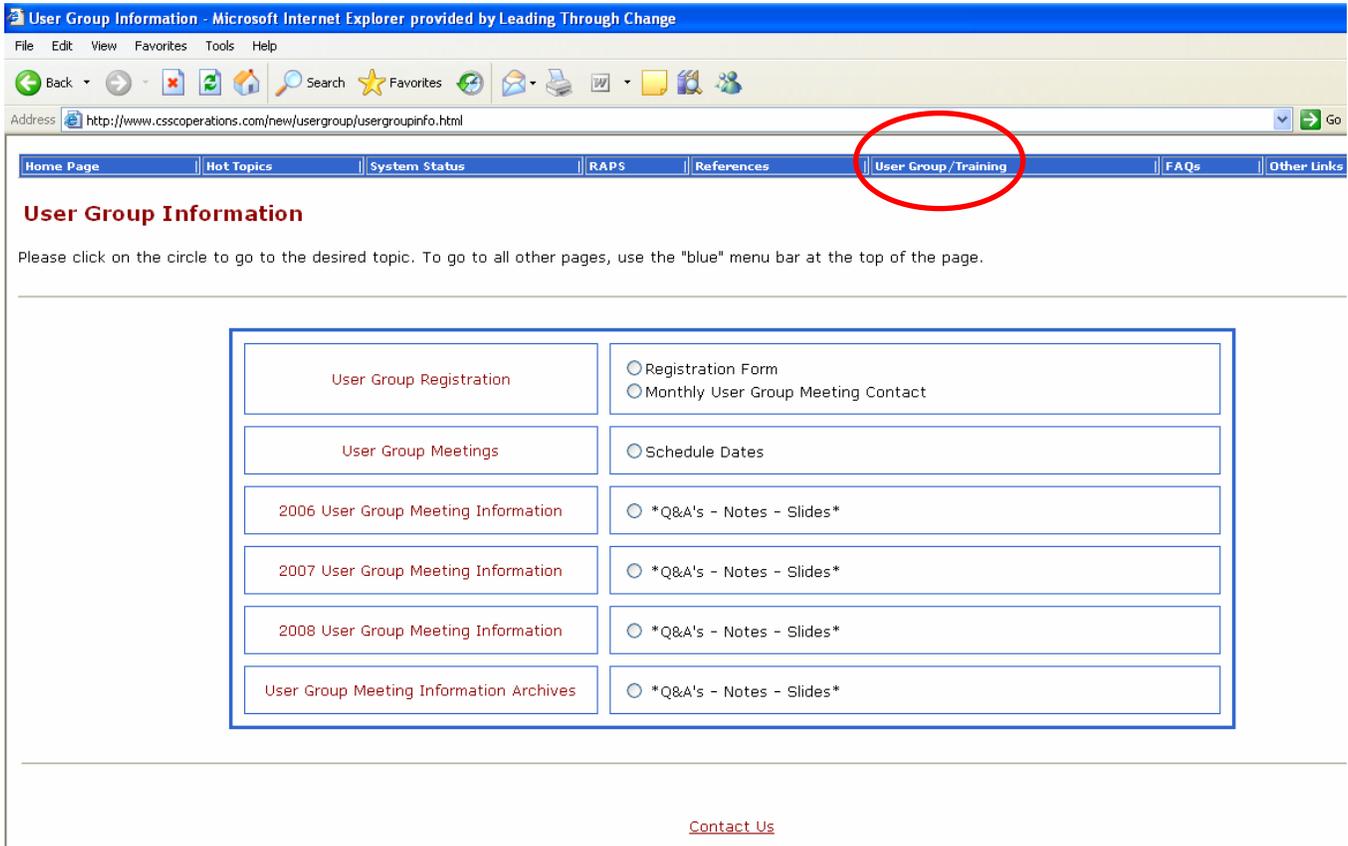
|   |  |
|---|--|
| RAPS Regional Training Registration       | <input type="radio"/> RAPS Training Registration   |
| 2007 Risk Adjustment Training Information | <input type="radio"/> Participant Guide<br><input type="radio"/> Color Presentation Slides<br><input type="radio"/> Black and White Presentation Slides<br><input type="radio"/> Resource Guide<br><input type="radio"/> Job Aides<br><input type="radio"/> Exercises<br><input type="radio"/> Answer Keys |
| Training Information Archives             | <input type="radio"/> Archived Information   |

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## User Group Information

<http://www.cssoperations.com/new/usergroup/usergroupinfo.html>



**User Group Information**

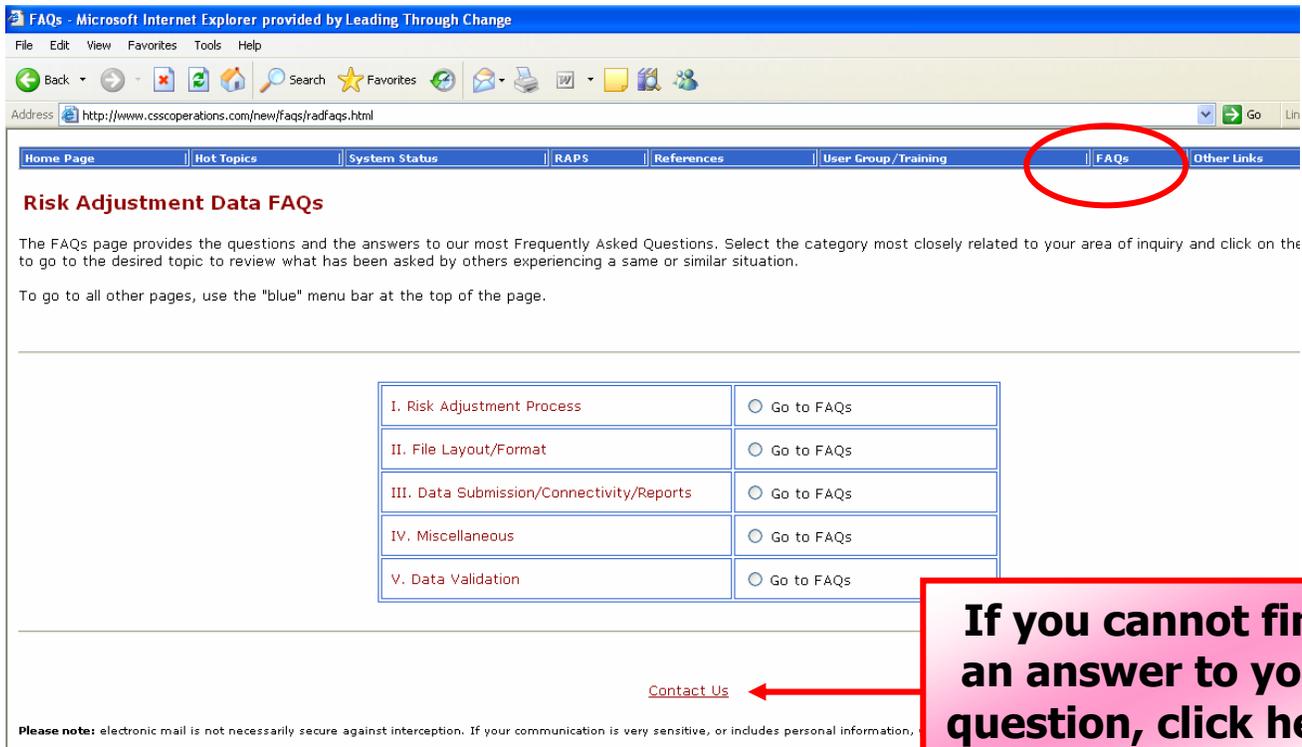
Please click on the circle to go to the desired topic. To go to all other pages, use the "blue" menu bar at the top of the page.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| User Group Registration                 | <input type="radio"/> Registration Form<br><input type="radio"/> Monthly User Group Meeting Contact |
| User Group Meetings                     | <input type="radio"/> Schedule Dates  |
| 2006 User Group Meeting Information     | <input type="radio"/> *Q&A's - Notes - Slides*  |
| 2007 User Group Meeting Information     | <input type="radio"/> *Q&A's - Notes - Slides*  |
| 2008 User Group Meeting Information     | <input type="radio"/> *Q&A's - Notes - Slides*  |
| User Group Meeting Information Archives | <input type="radio"/> *Q&A's - Notes - Slides*  |

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### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

<http://www.cssoperations.com/new/faqs/radfaqs.html>



**Risk Adjustment Data FAQs**

The FAQs page provides the questions and the answers to our most Frequently Asked Questions. Select the category most closely related to your area of inquiry and click on the to go to the desired topic to review what has been asked by others experiencing a same or similar situation.

To go to all other pages, use the "blue" menu bar at the top of the page.

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| I. Risk Adjustment Process                | <a href="#">Go to FAQs</a> |
| II. File Layout/Format                    | <a href="#">Go to FAQs</a> |
| III. Data Submission/Connectivity/Reports | <a href="#">Go to FAQs</a> |
| IV. Miscellaneous                         | <a href="#">Go to FAQs</a> |
| V. Data Validation                        | <a href="#">Go to FAQs</a> |

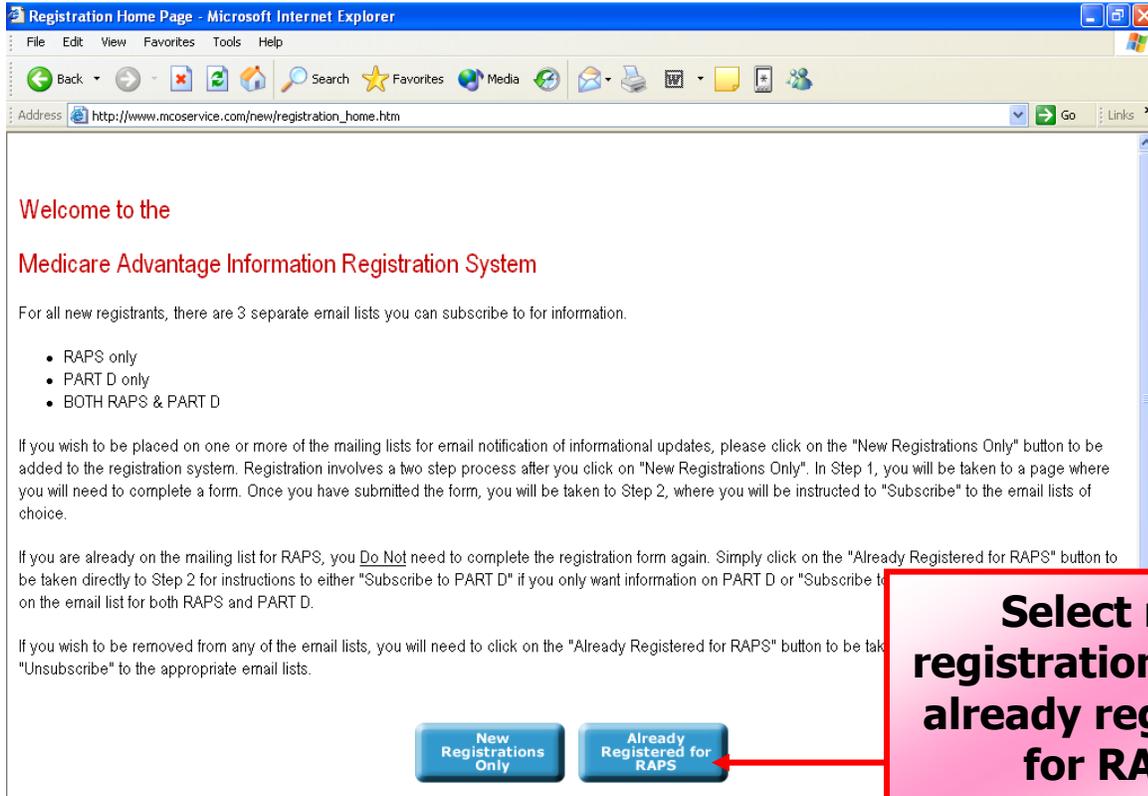
[Contact Us](#)

**Please note:** electronic mail is not necessarily secure against interception. If your communication is very sensitive, or includes personal information,

**If you cannot find an answer to your question, click here**

## Register for Email Service

[http://www.mcoservice.com/new/registration\\_home.htm](http://www.mcoservice.com/new/registration_home.htm)



Registration Home Page - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address [http://www.mcoservice.com/new/registration\\_home.htm](http://www.mcoservice.com/new/registration_home.htm)

Welcome to the  
Medicare Advantage Information Registration System

For all new registrants, there are 3 separate email lists you can subscribe to for information.

- RAPS only
- PART D only
- BOTH RAPS & PART D

If you wish to be placed on one or more of the mailing lists for email notification of informational updates, please click on the "New Registrations Only" button to be added to the registration system. Registration involves a two step process after you click on "New Registrations Only". In Step 1, you will be taken to a page where you will need to complete a form. Once you have submitted the form, you will be taken to Step 2, where you will be instructed to "Subscribe" to the email lists of choice.

If you are already on the mailing list for RAPS, you Do Not need to complete the registration form again. Simply click on the "Already Registered for RAPS" button to be taken directly to Step 2 for instructions to either "Subscribe to PART D" if you only want information on PART D or "Subscribe to RAPS" if you want information on both RAPS and PART D.

If you wish to be removed from any of the email lists, you will need to click on the "Already Registered for RAPS" button to be taken to a page where you will be instructed to "Unsubscribe" to the appropriate email lists.

New Registrations Only    Already Registered for RAPS

**Select new registration only or already registered for RAPS**

## Medicare Advantage Registration

<http://www.csscooperations.com/servlet/RegEmail?action=registrationPage>

MA Registration - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail

Address <http://www.csscooperations.com/servlet/RegEmail?action=registrationPage>

### Medicare Advantage Registration

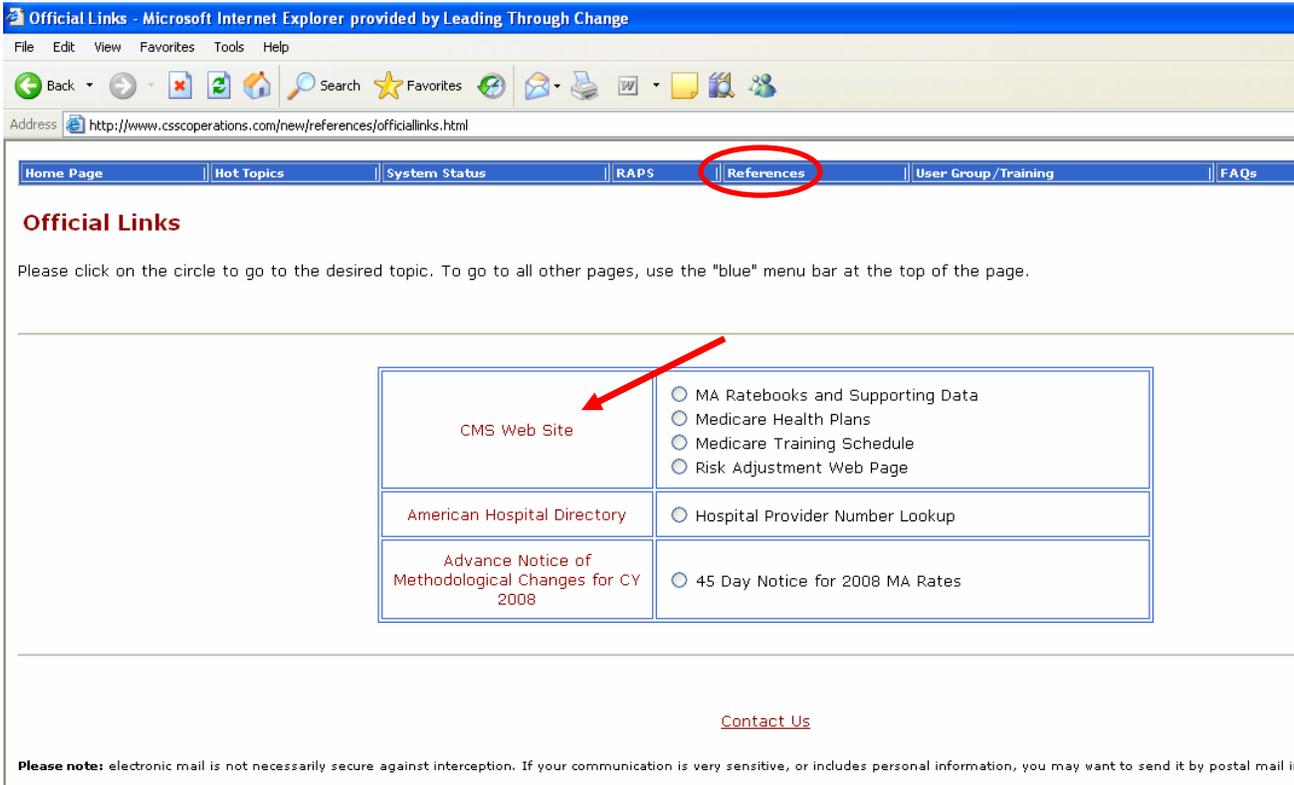
Please provide the following contact information: (\* = Required)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| First Name                                 | <input type="text"/>  | * |
| Last Name                                  | <input type="text"/>  | * |
| Organization                               | <input type="text"/>  | * |
| Plan ID Number                             | <input type="text"/>  | * |
| Street Address                             | <input type="text"/>  |   |
| City                                       | <input type="text"/>  |   |
| State                                      | <input type="text"/>  |   |
| Zip Code                                   | <input type="text"/>  |   |
| E-mail Address                             | <input type="text"/>  | * |
| To which Email Lists are you subscribing ? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> RAPS <input type="radio"/> PART D <input type="radio"/> BOTH |   |

Submit Form    Reset Form

**Link to CMS Website**

<http://cssoperations.com/new/references/officiallinks.html>



**Official Links**

Please click on the circle to go to the desired topic. To go to all other pages, use the "blue" menu bar at the top of the page.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| CMS Web Site   | <input type="radio"/> MA Ratebooks and Supporting Data<br><input type="radio"/> Medicare Health Plans<br><input type="radio"/> Medicare Training Schedule<br><input type="radio"/> Risk Adjustment Web Page |
| American Hospital Directory                          | <input type="radio"/> Hospital Provider Number Lookup   |
| Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for CY 2008 | <input type="radio"/> 45 Day Notice for 2008 MA Rates   |

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## **CSSC REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

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**TO: Medicare Advantage Organizations Submitting Risk Adjustment Data**

**RE: EDI Enrollment and Submitter Application for Risk Adjustment Data Processing**

Welcome to the Customer Service and Support Center (CSSC) for Medicare Advantage (MA) Organizations submitting Risk Adjustment Data. The CSSC and the Front-End Risk Adjustment System (FERAS) look forward to working with you in all aspects of the submission of risk adjustment data.

The following information must be completed and sent to the CSSC for enrollment for the submission of data for Risk Adjustment:

- EDI Agreement for Risk Adjustment Data collection
- Submitter Application
- Risk Adjustment Connect:Direct Specifications (For Connect:Direct users only)

**Please note the following for submitting Risk Adjustment Data:**

- A CMS Risk Adjustment Data EDI Agreement must be completed for each contract number and on file with CSSC prior to submitting Risk Adjustment Data. The agreement must be signed by an authorized agent of the organization and returned to CSSC Operations at the address provided.
- **Use of Third Party Submitters:** If the submitter will be an entity other than an MA organization, the Submitter must complete the Submitter ID Application form and the EDI Agreement form. This EDI Agreement must be completed, signed and returned for each Plan number submitting data. Regardless who submits the data, CMS holds the MA organization accountable for the content of the submission.
- A Submitter ID (SHnnnn) will be assigned to you by the CSSC and will remain effective for ongoing submission of risk adjustment data. This is the unique ID assigned to the Plan or entity that will submit data and retrieve reports. Please complete the Submitter Application return it to CSSC Operations with the completed EDI Agreement.
- You will be submitting all Risk Adjustment Data to the FERAS. Data can only be submitted in the RAPS format. All data submitted to the front-end will be sent to the Risk Adjustment Processing System (RAPS) in the risk adjustment data layout.
- Datasets are required to be set up for Connect:Direct users. The Risk Adjustment Connect:Direct Specifications form should be completed and returned to the CSSC with the Submitter Application and the EDI Agreement.
- Technical Specifications are available based on the communication medium that is currently in use. Connect:Direct instructions and the FERAS User Guide are available on the [csscoperations.com](http://csscoperations.com) web site. Testing instructions for each medium are included within the document.
- On-Line transaction data entry is available through the secure MDCN FERAS web site. This option allows the user to key risk adjustment data directly into the front-end, creating the file for direct data submission.
- Reports are returned on all data submitted. The following report files are available for data submitted:



Response report generated by FERAS - per file submission  
FERAS Response Report RSP#####.RSP.FERAS\_RESP  
RSP#####.ZIP.FERAS\_RESP (zip format)

RAPS – CMS generated reports per file submission  
RAPS Return File RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_RETURN\_FLAT  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_RETURN\_FLAT (zip format)

RAPS Error Report RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_ERROR\_RPT  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_ERROR\_RPT (zip format)

RAPS Duplicate Diagnosis Cluster Report  
RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_DUPDX\_RPT  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_DUPDX\_RPT (zip format)

RAPS Transaction Summary Report  
RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_SUMMARY  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_SUMMARY\_RPT (zip)

RAPS - CMS generated reports monthly  
RAPS Monthly Plan Activity Report  
RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_MONTHLY  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_MONTHLY (zip format)

RAPS Cumulative Plan Activity Report  
RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_CUMULATIVE  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_CUMULATIVE (zip format)

RAPS Monthly Error Frequency Report  
RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_ERRFREQ\_MNTH  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_ERRFREQ\_MNTH (zip)

Quarterly Error Frequency Report  
RPT#####.RPT.RAPS\_ERRFREQ\_QRT  
RPT#####.ZIP.RAPS\_ERRFREQ\_QRT (zip)

All reference material is available on the [www.csscooperations.com](http://www.csscooperations.com) web site. We encourage you to visit the site and register for e-mail notification of all updates. Please contact the CSSC Help Line with any questions regarding the information provided.

Palmetto GBA  
CSSC Operations, AG-570  
2300 Springdale Drive, Bldg. One  
Camden, SC 29020-1728  
1-877-534-2772  
[www.csscooperations.com](http://www.csscooperations.com)  
FAX: 1-803-935-0171



**Medicare Advantage Organization**

**Electronic Data Interchange Enrollment Form**

MANAGED CARE ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE (EDI) ENROLLMENT FORM

**ONLY** for the Collection of Risk Adjustment Data and/or

With Medicare Advantage Eligible Organizations

The eligible organization agrees to the following provisions for submitting Medicare risk adjustment data electronically to The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) or to CMS's contractors.

A. **The Eligible Organization Agrees:**

1. That it will be responsible for all Medicare risk adjustment data submitted to CMS by itself, its employees, or its agents.
2. That it will not disclose any information concerning a Medicare beneficiary to any other person or organization, except CMS and/or its contractors, without the express written permission of the Medicare beneficiary or his/her parent or legal guardian, or where required for the care and treatment of a beneficiary who is unable to provide written consent, or to bill insurance primary or supplementary to Medicare, or as required by State or Federal law.
3. That it will ensure that every electronic entry can be readily associated and identified with an original source document. Each source document must reflect the following information:
  - Beneficiary's name,
  - Beneficiary's health insurance claim number,
  - Date(s) of service,
  - Diagnosis/nature of illness
4. That the Secretary of Health and Human Services or his/her designee and/or the contractor has the right to audit and confirm information submitted by the eligible organization and shall have access to all original source documents and medical records related to the eligible organization's submissions, including the beneficiary's authorization and signature.
5. Based on best knowledge, information, and belief, that it will submit risk adjustment data that are accurate, complete, and truthful.
6. That it will retain all original source documentation and medical records pertaining to any such particular Medicare risk adjustment data for a period of at least 6 years, 3 months after the risk adjustment data is received and processed.
7. That it will affix the CMS-assigned unique identifier number of the eligible organization on each risk adjustment data electronically transmitted to the contractor.
8. That the CMS-assigned unique identifier number constitutes the eligible organization's legal electronic signature.
9. That it will use sufficient security procedures to ensure that all transmissions of documents are authorized and protect all beneficiary-specific data from improper access.



10. That it will establish and maintain procedures and controls so that information concerning Medicare beneficiaries, or any information obtained from CMS or its contractor, shall not be used by agents, officers, or employees of the billing service except as provided by the contractor (in accordance with §1106(a) of the Act).
11. That it will research and correct risk adjustment data discrepancies.
12. That it will notify the contractor or CMS within 2 business days if any transmitted data are received in an unintelligible or garbled form.

**B. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Agrees To:**

1. Transmit to the eligible organization an acknowledgment of risk adjustment data receipt.
2. Affix the intermediary/carrier number, as its electronic signature, on each response/report sent to the eligible organization.
3. Ensure that no contractor may require the eligible organization to purchase any or all electronic services from the contractor or from any subsidiary of the contractor or from any company for which the contractor has an interest.
4. The contractor will make alternative means available to any electronic biller to obtain such services.
5. Ensure that all Medicare electronic transmitters have equal access to any services that CMS requires Medicare contractors to make available to eligible organizations or their billing services, regardless of the electronic billing technique or service they choose. Equal access will be granted to any services the contractor sells directly, indirectly, or by arrangement.
6. Notify the provider within 2 business days if any transmitted data are received in an unintelligible or garbled form.

**NOTICE:**

Federal law shall govern both the interpretation of this document and the appropriate jurisdiction and venue for appealing any final decision made by CMS under this document.

This document shall become effective when signed by the eligible organization. The responsibilities and obligations contained in this document will remain in effect as long as Medicare risk adjustment data are submitted to CMS or the contractor. Either party may terminate this arrangement by giving the other party (30) days written notice of its intent to terminate. In the event that the notice is mailed, the written notice of termination shall be deemed to have been given upon the date of mailing, as established by the postmark or other appropriate evidence of transmittal.



**C. Signature:**

I am authorized to sign this document on behalf of the indicated party and I have read and agree to the foregoing provisions and acknowledge same by signing below.

Eligible Organization's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contract Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Regional Offices

Please retain a copy of all forms submitted for your records.

Complete and mail this form with original signature to:

**MA EDI Enrollment  
CSSC Operations AG-570  
Columbia, SC 29202-3275  
Phone (877) 534-2772  
[www.csscooperations.com](http://www.csscooperations.com)**

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**CSSC Risk Adjustment Data Submitter Application**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| New Submitter ID:  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                     |
| If no, please provide your existing submitter number:                        |  |
| If yes, please indicate who will submit your data:                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Third Party Submitter |
| If Third Party Submitter is selected, please provide the Third Party's name: |  |
| Plan Name:   |  |
| Address:   |  |
| Fax Number :   |  |
| Operations Contact Person:   |  |
| E-Mail address:  |  |
| Phone Number:  |  |
| Technical Contact Person:  |  |
| E-Mail address:  |  |
| Phone Number:  |  |



Please list any additional Plan numbers your organization will submit data for:

Plan Number:                      Plan Number:

\*\*If more space is needed to list additional Plan numbers, please make a copy of this page, list the Plan numbers, and attach with the application.

What Connection Type is established via the Medicare Data Communications Network (MDCN)?

Lease Line                     

Direct Connect                     

Dial up / Modem                     

GENTRAN                     

Please return the completed submitter application, EDI Agreement and NDM dataset specifications, if applicable, to CSSC Operations at the address below.

**Palmetto GBA**  
**CSSC Operations**  
Post Office Box 100275, AG-570 • Columbia, South Carolina • 29202-3275  
[www.csscoperations.com](http://www.csscoperations.com)



## Risk Adjustment Connect:Direct Specifications

The CONNECT:DIRECT Node connection is defined as follows:

**NET ID:** SCA  
**NODE ID:** A70NDM.MC  
**APPLID:** A70NDMMC  
**AGNS ID:** PGBA

**PLEASE ENTER YOUR Connect:Direct INFORMATION (Required):**

**NET ID:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**NODE ID:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**APPLID:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**AGNS ID:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Connect:Direct User ID and password (if datasets are racf protected)**

**User ID:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Password:** \_\_\_\_\_

### RAPS Transaction Submission

**DSN:** MAB.PROD.NDM.RAPS.PROD.submitter id(+1)  
**DISP:** (NE W,CATLG,DELETE)  
**UNIT:** SYSDG  
**SPACE:** (CYL,(75,10),RLSE)  
**DCB:** (RE CFM=FB,LRECL=512,BLKSIZE=27648)

Note: For testing, use **MAB.PROD.NDM.RAPS.TEST.submitter id(+1)**

Please note that the test/prod indicator in the file, AAA 6, must also indicate "TEST" or "PROD", depending on the type of file being submitted.

### Report Retrieval (enter names)

We will return reports to you in the following DSN's. These datasets need to be GDGs to allow multiple files to be sent without manual intervention or overwriting of existing files.

### Front End (FERAS) Response Report

Frequency: Daily  
Report **DSN:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**DCB=(DS** \_\_\_\_\_ **ORG=PS,LRECL=80,RECFM=FB,BLKSIZE=27920)**

### RAPS Return File

Frequency: Daily  
Flat **DSN:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**DCB=(DS** \_\_\_\_\_ **ORG=PS,LRECL=512,RECFM=FB,BLKSIZE=27648)**





**Date:** May 2006

**To:** Medicare Advantage (MA) and Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MA-PD) Contracts

**Regarding:** Submitting and / or Retrieving, Risk Adjustment (RA) and / or Prescription Drug Event (PDE) Data Directly to CMS Enterprise File Transfer (GENTRAN)

Plans / Contracts submitting directly to the GENTRAN application need to submit an EDI agreement and Submitter application to the Customer Service and Support Center (CSSC), 877-534-2772, [www.csscooperations.com](http://www.csscooperations.com).

- **EDI Agreement:** A CMS EDI Agreement must be completed for the specific data type, RA / PDE, by each contract and on file with CSSC, prior to submitting Test or Production Data. The agreement must be signed by an authorized agent of the organization and returned to CSSC Operations.
- **Submitter ID Assignment:** A Submitter ID will be assigned to you by the CSSC and will remain effective for ongoing submission of RA and/or PDE data. This is the unique ID assigned to the contract that will allow data submission and report retrieval. Complete the Submitter Application and return it to CSSC Operations with the completed EDI Agreement.

The GENTRAN mailbox(s) for any PDE or RA data must be established and access granted by contacting the Customer Support for Medicare Modernization (CSMM) technical help desk at 800-927-8069 or through the website at [www.mmahelp.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.mmahelp.cms.hhs.gov) or e-mail at [mmahelp@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:mmahelp@cms.hhs.gov).

- Contracts using GENTRAN may not have more than 100,000 enrollees.
- The files submitted may not be over 1.5 g in size for any one submission.
- A mailbox must be established for each Plan / Contract number and type of data, i.e. RA and PDE that will be submitted through GENTRAN. Multiple Plan / Contract numbers cannot be submitted in the same file through GENTRAN.
- Third Party Submitters submitting RA and / or PDE data through GENTRAN would have to have mailboxes created for each of the contracts for which they are submitting. Multiple Plan / Contract numbers cannot be submitted in the same file through GENTRAN.
- Contracts / Plans using Third Party Submitters should request through the CSMM, that a GENTRAN mailbox be established for the Plan to receive reports / files.

Contracts / Plans considering using the GENTRAN application at CMS will work closely with the CSSC and the CSMM to complete the appropriate paperwork and establish the necessary connectivity.



**GENTRAN File and Report Naming Conventions**

**PDE Production**

**Plan to CMS GENTRAN Name**

guid.racf.PDE.freq.ccccc.FUTURE.P guid.r

**GENTRAN Report Name**

RSP.PDFS\_RESP\_ ssssss T  
RPT.DDPS\_TRANS\_VALIDATION\_ ssssss T  
RPT.DDPS\_ERROR\_SUMMARY\_ ssssss T  
RPT.DDPS\_CUM\_BENE\_ACT\_COV\_ ssssss T  
RPT.DDPS\_CUM\_BENE\_ACT\_ENH\_ ssssss T  
RPT.DDPS\_CUM\_BENE\_ACT\_OTC\_ ssssss T

**PDE Test**

**Plan to CMS GENTRAN Name**

acf.PDE.freq.ccccc.FUTURE.T

**GENTRAN Report Name**

EST.RSP.PDFS\_RESP\_ ssssss  
EST.RPT.DDPS\_TRANS\_VALIDATION\_ ssssss  
EST.RPT.DDPS\_ERROR\_SUMMARY\_ ssssss  
EST.RPT.DDPS\_CUM\_BENE\_ACT\_COV\_ ssssss  
EST.RPT.DDPS\_CUM\_BENE\_ACT\_ENH\_ ssssss  
EST.RPT.DDPS\_CUM\_BENE\_ACT\_OTC\_ ssssss

**RAPS Production**

**Plan to CMS GENTRAN Name**

guid.racf.RAPS.freq.ccccc.FUTURE.P

**GENTRAN Report Name**

RSP.FERAS\_RESP\_ ssssss T  
RPT.RAPS\_RETURN\_FLAT\_ ssssss TEST  
RPT.RAPS\_ERRORRPT\_ ssssss TEST  
RPT.RAPS\_SUMMARY\_ ssssss TEST  
RPT.RAPS\_DUPDX\_RPT\_ ssssss TEST  
RPT.RAPS\_MONTHLY\_ ssssss TEST  
RPT.RAPS\_CUMULATIVE\_ ssssss TEST  
RAPS\_ERRORFREQ\_MNTH\_ ssssss T  
RAPS\_ERRORFREQ\_QTR\_ ssssss T

**RAPS Test**

**Plan to CMS GENTRAN Name**

guid.racf.RAPS.freq.ccccc.FUTURE.T

**GENTRAN Report Name**

EST.RSP.FERAS\_RESP\_ ssssss  
.RPT.RAPS\_RETURN\_FLAT\_ ssssss  
.RPT.RAPS\_ERRORRPT\_ ssssss  
.RPT.RAPS\_SUMMARY\_ ssssss  
.RPT.RAPS\_DUPDX\_RPT\_ ssssss  
.RPT.RAPS\_MONTHLY\_ ssssss  
.RPT.RAPS\_CUMULATIVE\_ ssssss  
EST.RAPS\_ERRORFREQ\_MNTH\_ ssssss  
EST.RAPS\_ERRORFREQ\_QTR\_ ssssss

**CONTACTING CSSC OPERATIONS:**

When a contract has established a mailbox at CMS, the following steps must be taken to make sure the connection from FERAS/PDFS to CMS GENTRAN mailbox has been generated:

- Check enrollment in HPMS
- Distinguish RAPS and/or PDE mailbox needs to be established
- Send email to CSSC technician to set up GDG Base to send either RAPS and/or PDE data and reports
- Once the above steps have been completed, EPClaims is updated for PDE contracts only (RAPS requires no additional updates in EPClaims)
- Customer is notified
- GENT RAN spreadsheet on the "U" Drive is updated
- Enter information into the INFO System



## **APPLICATION FOR ACCESS**

This page intentionally left blank.

EUA WorkFlow Request No.

## APPLICATION FOR ACCESS TO CMS COMPUTER SYSTEMS

**1. TYPE OF REQUEST** *(Check only one):*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NEW</b> <i>(Issue a CMS UserID)</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>CONNECT/DISCONNECT</b><br><i>(Add/remove access authorities)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>CERTIFY</b> <i>(Due date: ___/___/___)</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>CHANGE USER INFORMATION</b> <i>(Note new info)</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>DELETE</b> <i>(Remove CMS UserID from all CMS systems)</i> |
|---|--|

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

**USERID**  
*(Capital Letters)*

**2. USER INFORMATION**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CMS Employee<br><input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Advantage / Medicare Advantage with Prescription Drug / Prescription Drug Plan / Cost Contracts – Using HPMS Only<br><input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Advantage / Medicare Advantage with Prescription Drug / Prescription Drug Plan / Cost Contracts – Using Other Systems<br><input type="checkbox"/> CITIC Contractor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Program Safeguard Contractor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Contractor/Intermediary/Carrier<br><input type="checkbox"/> Contractor (non-Medicare contract with CMS)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Researcher<br><input type="checkbox"/> Quality Improvement Organization<br><input type="checkbox"/> End-Stage Renal Disease Network<br><input type="checkbox"/> State Agency (State of _____)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Baltimore HR Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Centers for Disease Control & Prevention<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Commission Corps<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Dept of Health & Human Services<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – HHS – OMHA<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Dept of Justice<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Dept of Veterans Affairs<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Government Accountability Office<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – General Services Administration<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Internal Revenue Service<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Office of General Counsel<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Office of Inspector General<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Railroad Retirement Board<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Social Security Administration<br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt – Other: _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
|---|---|

|  |    |   |
|--|----|---|
| First Name <i>(As you want it published)</i> | MI | Last Name <i>(As you want it published)</i> |
|--|----|---|

Company/Organization/Department Name

Mailing Address *(Include Suite/Mailstop)*

|      |       |          |
|------|-------|----------|
| City | State | ZIP Code |
|------|-------|----------|

|   |   |                |
|---|---|----------------|
| Office Telephone <i>(Include Extension)</i> | Company Telephone <i>(If different)</i> | E-Mail Address |
|---|---|----------------|

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>IF CMS EMPLOYEE</b> Org Name/Admin Code | Are you a Manager?<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|--|--|

**IF ONSITE AT CMS LOCATION** CMS Region/Facility (Check One)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> R4 (AFC) Atlanta<br><input type="checkbox"/> R10 (BLNCH) Seattle<br><input type="checkbox"/> CO (CENTRAL) Central Office<br><input type="checkbox"/> R5 (CHIICB) Chicago<br><input type="checkbox"/> DC (COHEN) DC<br><input type="checkbox"/> R6 (DAL1301) Dallas<br><input type="checkbox"/> R8 (DENCBS) Denver<br><input type="checkbox"/> R7 (FOBKAN) Kansas City | <input type="checkbox"/> DC (HHH) DC<br><input type="checkbox"/> R9 (HWTHRN) San Francisco<br><input type="checkbox"/> R1 (JFKBOS) Boston<br><input type="checkbox"/> R2 (JKJNYC) New York<br><input type="checkbox"/> CO (LBDCO) Central Office<br><input type="checkbox"/> CO (NORTH) Central Office<br><input type="checkbox"/> R3 (PHIPLB) Philadelphia<br><input type="checkbox"/> CO (SOUTH) Central Office<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|--|---|

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| Mail Stop | Desk Location |
|-----------|---------------|

**3. WORKLOAD INFORMATION**

Contract Number(s) (for Medicare Advantage/Medicare Advantage with Prescription Drug/Prescription Drug Plan/Cost Contracts — Hxxxx, Sxxxx, etc.)

Carrier Number(s) (for Medicare Contractors/Intermediaries/Carriers — 12345)

Contract and Task Number (for Contractors — CMS-05-0001 : 0001)

Grant Number (for Researchers)

Inter-Agency Agreement Number

**4. REQUIRED ACCESSES** (See <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mdcn/bmcjcreport.asp> for list of available jobcodes)

|                                  |                                     |                               |   |                                  |                                     |                               |       |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | Default CMS Employee<br>(standard desktop & network with CMS e-mail acct) | <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | Default Non-CMS Employee<br>(standard network access)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Connect | <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep | _____ |

**5. JUSTIFICATION** (If name change, show Old Name =, New Name =)

**6. APPROVALS:** (See <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mdcn/reqsigchart.pdf> for approval info)

**PROVIDE SIGNATURES BELOW OR APPROVE ONLINE EUA WORKFLOW REQUEST NUMBER REFERENCED ON PAGE 1.**

**Authorization:** We acknowledge that our Organization is responsible for all resources to be used by the person identified above and that requested accesses are required to perform their duties. We have reviewed and verified the workload information supplied is accurate and appropriate. We understand that any change in employment status or access needs are to be reported immediately via submittal of this form or EUA WorkFlow request.

**1st APPROVER** (CMS Project Officer, CMS Contact, CMS Supervisor, MCIC Contact, etc.)

|              |           |                  |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| Printed Name |           | Telephone Number |
| CMS UserID   | Signature | Date             |

**2nd APPROVER** (Not required for CMS employees, BHRC or Commissioned Corps)

|              |           |                  |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| Printed Name |           | Telephone Number |
| CMS UserID   | Signature | Date             |

**APPLICANT:** Read, complete and sign next page.

## APPLICATION FOR ACCESS TO CMS COMPUTER SYSTEMS

Printed Name *(As you want it published)*

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

Social Security Number

CMS USERID

### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

The information on page 1 of this form is collected and maintained under the authority of Title 5 U.S. Code, Section 552a(e)(10) (The Privacy Act of 1974). This information is used for assigning, controlling, tracking, and reporting authorized access to and use of CMS's computerized information and resources. The Privacy Act prohibits disclosure of information from records protected by the statute, except in limited circumstances.

The information you furnish on this form will be maintained in the Individuals Authorized Access to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Data Center Systems of Records and may be disclosed as a routine use disclosure under the routine uses established for this system as published at 59 FED.REG.41329 (08-11-94) and as CMS may establish in the future by publication in the Federal Register.

The Social Security Number (SSN) is used as an identifier in the Federal Service because of the large number of present and former Federal employees and applicants whose identity can only be distinguished by use of the SSN. Collection of the SSN is authorized by Executive Order 9397. Furnishing the information on this form, including your Social Security Number, is voluntary. However, if you do not provide this information, you will not be granted access to CMS computer systems.

### SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR USERS OF CMS COMPUTER SYSTEMS

CMS uses computer systems that contain sensitive information to carry out its mission. Sensitive information is any information, which the loss, misuse, or unauthorized access to, or modification of could adversely affect the national interest, or the conduct of Federal programs, or the privacy to which individuals are entitled under the Privacy Act. To ensure the security and privacy of sensitive information in Federal computer systems, the Computer Security Act of 1987 requires agencies to identify sensitive computer systems, conduct computer security training, and develop computer security plans. CMS maintains a system of records for use in assigning, controlling, tracking, and reporting authorized access to and use of CMS's computerized information and resources. CMS records all access to its computer systems and conducts routine reviews for unauthorized access to and/or illegal activity.

Anyone with access to CMS Computer Systems containing sensitive information must abide by the following:

- Do not disclose or lend your IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND/OR PASSWORD to someone else. They are for your use only and serve as your "electronic signature". This means that you may be held responsible for the consequences of unauthorized or illegal transactions.
- Do not browse or use CMS data files for unauthorized or illegal purposes.
- Do not use CMS data files for private gain or to misrepresent yourself or CMS.
- Do not make any disclosure of CMS data that is not specifically authorized.
- Do not duplicate CMS data files, create subfiles of such records, remove or transmit data unless you have been specifically authorized to do so.
- Do not change, delete, or otherwise alter CMS data files unless you have been specifically authorized to do so.
- Do not make copies of data files, with identifiable data, or data that would allow individual identities to be deduced unless you have been specifically authorized to do so.
- Do not intentionally cause corruption or disruption of CMS data files.

A violation of these security requirements could result in termination of systems access privileges and/or disciplinary/adverse action up to and including removal from Federal Service, depending upon the seriousness of the offense. In addition, Federal, State, and/or local laws may provide criminal penalties for any person illegally accessing or using a Government-owned or operated computer system illegally.

If you become aware of any violation of these security requirements or suspect that your identification number or password may have been used by someone else, immediately report that information to your component's Information Systems Security Officer.

Applicant's Signature

Date

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