



MEDICARE DRUG & HEALTH PLAN CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION GROUP

DATE: July 17, 2015

TO: PACE Organizations

FROM: Kathryn A. Coleman, Director

SUBJECT: Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly Quality Measure Public Comment Period (Closes: August 17, 2015)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) contracted with Econometrica, Inc. in September 2014 to adapt existing quality measures endorsed by the National Quality Forum (NQF) for the Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). CMS awarded this contract as a four-year project. For the first year, CMS and Econometrica selected the following four measures for adaptation and potential implementation to PACE nationwide:

- Falls;
- Falls with Injury;
- Pressure Ulcers (rate and prevention); and
- 30-Day All-Cause Hospital Readmissions.

CMS is pleased to announce that these first four quality measures for PACE are available for public comment on CMS's Quality Measures website at: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/MMS/CallforPublicComment.html>. The project title for these measures is "Development, Implementation, and Maintenance of Quality Measures for the Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)." The public comment period opens on **July 17, 2015** and will close at midnight (12:00am EST) on **August 17, 2015**. CMS strongly encourages PACE organizations and other interested parties to review these draft quality measures and provide feedback by the August 15, 2015 deadline.¹ CMS has provided specific instructions regarding the submission of comments on CMS's Quality Measures website.

Comments received will inform the final technical specifications on the first set of quality measures that CMS will implement for the PACE program. CMS will also develop audit protocols for the implemented quality measures in order to monitor and validate data reported by the PACE organizations. Any quality measure implemented by CMS will be monitored to ensure that each measure adds value to PACE quality reporting.

¹ CMS and Econometrica conducted testing on these four measures from May through early July 2015. CMS continues to analyze the results and feedback from this testing period.

If you have any additional questions, please direct them to CMS's mailbox at: <https://dmao.lmi.org>. Once there, please select the PACE tab to submit your question. PACE Organizations should also reach out to their respective Account Manager with any questions.