

HPMS E-Mail

Date: August 7, 2015

Subject: All MMPs: Correction to Chapter 4 of the Member (or Participant) Handbook

E-mail text:

On August 6, 2015, CMS issued an HPMS memorandum, "Model Notice Corrections," with several required changes to CY 2016 model notices. We clarify that one of those required changes, the change in language to the preventive abdominal aortic aneurysm screening language in Chapter 4 of the Evidence of Coverage (EOC) model, also applies to all Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs), as this language also appears in the Benefits Chart in Chapter 4 of each state-specific Member (or Participant) Handbook. None of the other changes in the August 6, 2015 memorandum are applicable to MMPs.

CMS is requiring changes to this language because, as previously issued, it does not reflect current policy. All MMPs in currently operating demonstrations must update the language regarding this benefit in Chapter 4 of their final CY 2016 Member (or Participant Handbooks) as follows:

"Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening"

A one-time screening ultrasound for people at risk. The plan only covers this screening if you have certain risk factors and if you get a referral for it from your physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist."

CY 2016 model documents will not be reissued to reflect this required change, although we anticipate being able to accommodate this change in any applicable Spanish translations of Chapter 4 that will be released to MMPs shortly. If you have any questions about this issue, please contact mmcocapsmodel@cms.hhs.gov or your Contract Management Team.