



CENTER FOR MEDICARE

DATE: July 9, 2015

TO: All Current and Prospective Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plan, Medicare-Medicaid Plan, and Cost Plan Organizations

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SUBJECT: Second Round of HPMS Crosswalk Exceptions for Contract Year (CY) 2016

CMS is pleased to announce that all organizations will be afforded a second opportunity to request an HPMS crosswalk exception for CY 2016. Organizations are strongly encouraged to carefully review their current plan crosswalk relationships from CY 2015 to CY 2016, as this is the last time you may request modifications to their HPMS plan crosswalks.

Organizations will be able to submit the above crosswalk exception requests through HPMS from **Wednesday, July 15, 2015 through Friday, July 17, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. ET**. Crosswalk exception requests may only be submitted via HPMS.

An organization may request a crosswalk exception at this time for one of the following three reasons:

- 1) An organization failed to submit a crosswalk exception during the first crosswalk exception window. The permitted crosswalk exceptions are outlined in the April 6, 2015 “Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2016 Medicare Advantage Capitation Rates and Medicare Advantage and Part D Payment Policies and Final Call Letter” and in Chapter 4 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual. Additional information may be found in Chapters 16a and 16b of the Medicare Managed Care Manual and in our May 1, 2015 HPMS crosswalk exceptions memorandum, entitled “Process for Requesting an HPMS Crosswalk Exception for Contract Year (CY) 2016.”
- 2) An organization needs to modify their crosswalk or consolidate plans as a result of our bid review and subsequent negotiations. (NOTE: Users should select “Other” as the Crosswalk Exception Request Type in HPMS.)

- 3) An organization has a CY 2015 plan currently marked as “terminated” in the HPMS plan crosswalk that should have been consolidated with a CY 2016 plan. (NOTE: Users should select “Other” as the Crosswalk Exception Request Type in HPMS.)

To access the crosswalk exception functionality, HPMS users should use the following navigation path: HPMS > Plan Bids > Bid Submission > Contract Year 2016 > Upload > Plan Crosswalk Exceptions.

Note: Organizations that are further consolidating plans for CY 2016 must contact their CMS desk reviewer to open the bid submission gates. The organization should then delete the plan that will not exist for CY 2016 in HPMS. To delete a plan, the organization should use the following HPMS navigation: HPMS > Plan Bids > Bid Submission > Contract Year 2016 > Manage Plans > Set-up Plans > Select Contract Number > Select Plan > Select the Action “Delete a Plan.”

After the second crosswalk exception request deadline has passed, CMS will review all submitted requests and determine if the crosswalk exception request is permissible. Organizations that submit one or more crosswalk exception requests will be notified when the crosswalks have been reviewed and processed in HPMS. Organizations will then be instructed to view the HPMS Plan Crosswalk Report, which is located at: HPMS > Contract Management > Contract Reports > 2016 > Plan Crosswalk Report.

If the requested crosswalk exception is approved, CMS will either:

- 1) Complete the crosswalk on behalf of the organization.
 - o Once the crosswalk is completed by CMS, the requested crosswalk exception will be noted in the Organization’s crosswalk report, including the date that the crosswalk was processed by CMS; or
2. Notify the organization that they are permitted to submit MARx enrollment transactions to move the impacted beneficiaries to the appropriate plan. Once permission has been granted, organizations will see a new table at the bottom of the plan crosswalk report that identifies the organizations that may submit MARx transactions to move their enrollees.

For questions regarding this memo, please send an e-mail to HPMSCrosswalkexceptions@cms.hhs.gov.

For HPMS technical issues, please contact the HPMS Help Desk at either 1-800-220-2028 or hpms@cms.hhs.gov.