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

**CENTER FOR MEDICARE**

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**DATE:**     July 12, 2017

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

**FROM:**     Kathryn A. Coleman, Director
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**SUBJECT:**     Second Round of HPMS Crosswalk Exceptions for Contract Year (CY) 2018

CMS announces that organizations have an additional opportunity to request an HPMS crosswalk exception for CY 2018. Organizations are strongly encouraged to carefully review their CY 2017 to CY 2018 crosswalks, as this is the last time organizations may modify their crosswalks.

Organizations will be able to submit crosswalk exception requests through HPMS from **Wednesday, July 12, 2017 through Friday, July 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. ET**. Requests may only be submitted via HPMS.

Organizations are limited to requests for the following reasons:

1) The organization failed to submit a crosswalk exception during the first crosswalk exception window. The permitted crosswalk exceptions are outlined in the April 3, 2017 "Announcement of Calendar Year (CY) 2018 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 the April 27, 2017 HPMS crosswalk exceptions memorandum, entitled "Process for Requesting an HPMS Crosswalk Exception for Contract Year (CY) 2018."

2) The organization needs to modify its crosswalk or consolidate plans, as a result of bid review and subsequent negotiations. (NOTE: Organizations should select "Other" as the Crosswalk Exception Request Type in HPMS.)

3) The organization has a CY 2017 plan marked as "terminated" in the HPMS plan crosswalk that should be consolidated with a CY 2018 plan. (NOTE: Users should select "Other" as the Crosswalk Exception Request Type in HPMS.)

To access the crosswalk exception functionality, organizations should use the following navigation path: HPMS > Plan Bids > Bid Submission > Contract Year 2018 > Upload > Plan Crosswalk Exceptions.

**Note:** Organizations that are further consolidating plans for CY 2018 must contact their CMS desk reviewer to open the bid submission gates. Organizations should then delete the plan that will not exist for CY 2018 in HPMS. To delete the plan, organizations should use the following HPMS navigation: HPMS > Plan Bids > Bid Submission > Contract Year 2018 > 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 requests are permissible. Organizations will be notified when the crosswalks have been reviewed and processed in HPMS. Organizations may then view the HPMS Plan Crosswalk Report located at: HPMS > Contract Management > Contract Reports > 2018 > Plan Crosswalk Report.

If the requested crosswalk exception requests are approved, CMS will either:

1) Complete the crosswalk on behalf of the organization. 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 it is permitted to submit the MARx enrollment transactions to move the impacted enrollees to the appropriate plan. Once permission has been granted, a new table will be visible at the end of the plan crosswalk report noting that the organizations may submit the MARx transactions to move the enrollees.

For questions regarding this memo, please submit your inquiry to the DMAO portal at: https://dmao.lmi.org. Please select the Medicare Advantage tab and submit your inquiry under the "Crosswalks" category.

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