

CMS Finalizes 2017 Pilot MMP Audit Protocols

BluePeak Analyzes Changes from Draft to Final Protocols

The final 2017 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Program Audit Protocols for Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs) will be piloted in conjunction with the existing CMS Program Audit Protocols. Are you ready for the newest addition to CMS' auditing suite? BluePeak is currently conducting mock audits and providing CMS audit support for MMP plans, and we can help your team, too.

BluePeak provided an [overview of the draft MMP protocols](#) in the April BluePeak Bulletin. While the majority of changes from the draft to final 2017 Program Audit Protocols for MMPs are universe clarifications, other changes are highlighted below:

MMP Care Coordination and Quality Improvement Program Effectiveness (MMP-CCQIPE) and MMP Service Authorization Requests, Appeals and Grievances (MMP-SARAG) Revisions:

- The MMP pilot audit will be conducted during the second week of the program audit.
- Disclosed issues include issues that are reported to the Contract Management Team (CMT) in the region that includes the state where the MMP is issued.
- While the MMP-CCQIPE and MMP-SARAG program area results will not be included in the overall CMS program audit score, MMPs will still be required to submit necessary documentation as a result of any audit findings.
- As with the CMS program audit universes, Comma Separated Values (.csv) has been removed as an acceptable universe format. Universes may be submitted in Text (.txt) or Excel file format.

SARAG Revisions:

- The following exclusion language was added to universes, Tables 1-11: *Also, exclude concurrent review for inpatient hospital and SNF services, post-service reviews, and notifications of admissions. If an MMP has already programmed its systems to include these requests in this universe we will accept the universe submission. Note that requests for extensions of previously approved services have not been excluded.*
- For grievance universes, Tables 10 and 11, CMS recommends including the last good faith effort made within the notification timeframe in the Date Oral Notification Provided to Member field.
- MMPs are to exclude any calls related to Part D when populating the MMP Call Logs universe (Table 12).

BluePeak is currently conducting mock CMS audits and providing support to clients undergoing actual CMS audits. We've performed over 100 mock audits and audit support projects, and we can help you and your team get audit ready, too.

Contact BluePeak at (469) 319-1228 or info@bluepeak.com for a free consultation.
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