



MEDICARE-MEDICAID COORDINATION OFFICE

DATE: April 2, 2020

TO: Medicare-Medicaid Plans

FROM: Lindsay P. Barnette
Director, Models, Demonstrations and Analysis Group

SUBJECT: Reporting Update for Medicare-Medicaid Plans due to COVID-19

As noted in the [interim final rule with comment period \(IFC\)](#) released on March 30th, the COVID-19 pandemic creates significant challenges and safety concerns regarding data collection for the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures and the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey. As a result of these challenges, the IFC eliminates the requirement for Medicare health plans to submit HEDIS 2020 data covering the 2019 measurement year. The IFC also eliminates the requirement to submit 2020 CAHPS survey data for Medicare health and drug plans. **We confirm that the elimination of these requirements for the same reporting years applies to Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs)** participating in demonstrations as part of the Financial Alignment Initiative. Therefore, we are requesting that MMPs immediately curtail any data collection (e.g., medical record review) that necessitates visits to health care providers or is likely to impede health care providers' focus on patients needing care. These changes to HEDIS and CAHPS reporting requirements will impact the Calendar Year (CY) 2019 and CY 2020 quality withhold analyses for MMPs; we will provide additional information regarding the impacts in the near future.

Also as noted in the IFC, CMS is moving the Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) administration to late summer and will provide more information to Medicare health plans in the upcoming months. MMPs should follow the additional HOS instructions as provided.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office at mmcocapsmodel@cms.hhs.gov.