

## HPMS E-Mail

**Date:** October 26, 2018

**Subject:** ASPE Request for Information on Approaches to Improve Care for Medicare Beneficiaries with Social Risk Factors

ASPE has issued a Request for Information (RFI) related to the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014 at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/social-risk-factors-and-medicares-value-based-purchasing-programs-request-information>, accepting responses until November 16, 2018 by email at [ASPEImpactStudy@hhs.gov](mailto:ASPEImpactStudy@hhs.gov). The RFI, entitled *IMPACT ACT Research Study: Provider and health plan approaches to improve care for Medicare beneficiaries with social risk factors*, focuses on one aspect of the larger study described below.

Section 2(d) of the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014 calls for the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), acting through the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), to conduct a study evaluating the effect of individuals' socioeconomic status (SES) on quality measures and measures of resource use under the Medicare program. The first component of the required work, a 2016 Report to Congress, focused on socioeconomic information currently available in Medicare data. Following up on ASPE's first Report to Congress, HHS is interested in:

- How plans and providers serving Medicare beneficiaries identify beneficiaries with social risk factors
- Approaches plans and providers have used to address the needs of beneficiaries with social risk factors
- Evidence regarding the impact of these approaches on quality outcomes and the total cost of care
- Ways in which plans and providers disentangle beneficiaries' social and medical risks and address each

**We encourage you to respond to this request for information and to share it with others.** The information gathered through this RFI will be valuable to CMS as we continue to

examine the impact of social risk factors on health outcomes and how to best address the impact on clinical quality measurement for health and drug plans.

**The full request for information is available at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/social-risk-factors-and-medicares-value-based-purchasing-programs-request-information>. Comments will be received until November 16, 2018 by email at [ASPEImpactStudy@hhs.gov](mailto:ASPEImpactStudy@hhs.gov).**