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**TO:** All Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors and Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs)

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**SUBJECT:** Contract Year (CY) 2020 Access to the Additional Beneficiary Information Initiatives (ABII) Web Portal

**DATE:** November 25, 2019

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform Part D sponsors and Medicare Advantage Organizations of the continuation of the Additional Beneficiary Information Initiatives (ABII) Web Portal for CY 2020, detail updates to ABII reports starting in January 2020, and operational information for participants in this process. In 2018, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the scheduled launch of the ABII web portal starting January 1, 2019. The ABII web portal was developed to improve the coordination of benefits process by providing Part D plans with additional information about their enrollees. This memorandum provides guidance about requesting available reports and technical information about the ABII web portal, including the process and time frame for submitting access requests.

***A. Requesting and Using ABII Reports***

In preparation for CY 2020, we encourage Part D plans to request access to the ABII web portal, which will provide a secure mechanism for Part D plans to retrieve information about their enrollees for the purpose of improving administration of the Part D benefit. Hosted by Acumen, LLC (Acumen), the ABII web portal will be accessible only to authorized users, and each contract will have its own segmented space within the module. Each Part D plan's Medicare Compliance Officer (MCO) is responsible for obtaining and maintaining access to the ABII web portal for their organization. The MCO will be notified when their contract has been added to the ABII web portal and be provided instructions on how to authorize users. Detailed instructions on adding authorized users to the ABII web portal are available in Section C of this memorandum. Authorized ABII users will be notified when a new report is available for download.

Once plans gain access to the ABII web portal, they may request reports by submitting a data request form. Instructions for submitting data request forms are provided in Section D. Currently, there are two report types available on the ABII web portal: the Medicare-Covered Transplant

Beneficiaries File and the Outpatient Dialysis Facility File. The Medicare-Covered Transplant Beneficiaries File provides historical non-renal transplant information to MA-PDs and PDPs for beneficiaries currently enrolled in the contract. ABII reports do not include kidney transplants, and plans will continue to rely on MARx for renal transplant information. The Outpatient Dialysis Facility File provides information to PDPs about dialysis periods for currently enrolled beneficiaries who have at least one day of dialysis service within the current contract year. This report is not available to MA-PD contracts. National PACE organizations are not eligible to receive either report and are therefore not expected to sign up for the ABII web portal. For more detailed information about the methodology, please visit the Help Documents section of the ABII web portal, or contact Acumen at [ABII@AcumenLLC.com](mailto:ABII@AcumenLLC.com) or CMS at [PartD\\_COB@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PartD_COB@cms.hhs.gov). CMS also invites plans to submit ideas on how the ABII web portal could provide additional information to Part D plans that would help them improve coordination of the Part D benefit. Suggestions may be sent to [PartD\\_COB@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PartD_COB@cms.hhs.gov).

### ***B. ABII Updates for CYs 2019 and 2020***

The following updates will be reflected in ABII reports beginning in January 2020, with the implementation timeframe for subsequent reports outlined below:

#### ***1. January 2020 Transplant and Dialysis Reports***

Beginning with Coverage Year 2020, Acumen will provide sponsors with the first transplant and dialysis report of the year in January. The January 2020 report will be the first report release of the year, with the most up-to-date 2020 enrollment information. These reports will contain dialysis/transplant records for beneficiaries who are newly enrolled as of January 2020, in addition to including the beneficiaries who are continuously enrolled from 2019 to 2020.

#### ***2. Dropped Record Flag within Transplant Reports***

In response to sponsor feedback, the transplants reports starting in January 2020 will now notify sponsors when an enrollee previously noted in one of their contracts' Medicare-Covered Transplants Reports is no longer included in reporting (a "dropped record"). The change would incorporate all records that have been previously communicated to the sponsor as well as the records that are newly identified for each release. An additional field will be created to identify active records, inactive records, and deleted records. Active records are those for current enrollees who have current evidence of a Medicare-covered transplant. Inactive records are for beneficiaries who were enrolled at some point who have subsequently disenrolled from the contract. Deleted records are for beneficiaries for which a record was reported in a prior transplant report, but at the time of publishing the most updated report, there is no longer evidence of a Medicare-covered transplant. Very infrequently an enrollee's record will be flagged as deleted. This may happen when subsequent reporting does not indicate a Medicare covered transplant claim, potentially due to a coverage decision or other action that resulted in the transplant not being covered by Medicare.

Part D sponsors are expected to rely on CMS data as soon as the information is made available to them. In the rare event of a deleted record, sponsors should fully investigate whether the change in report is in fact due to an action or change that ultimately affects whether Part D or Part B coverage is available in that unique circumstance.

3. ***Expansion of the Beneficiary Population Included in Transplant Reports***

To date the transplant report has identified transplant claims for current enrollees. Claims submitted after a beneficiary’s disenrollment are not communicated to the contract. To provide a more comprehensive picture of a beneficiary’s transplant history, Medicare-Covered Transplant Reports beginning in January 2020 will include transplant records for beneficiaries who have been enrolled in a given contract at any point during the past 3 calendar years. This change, coupled with the dropped record flag described in item 2 above, will aid sponsors in making coverage determinations based on Medicare-covered transplants.

***C. ABII Web Portal Actions and Timelines***

The following table summarizes the actions and timelines for accessing reports on the ABII web portal for CY 2020.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>
<p><b>New CY 2020 contracts:</b> MCOs can complete the user authorization process for the ABII web portal via Acumen’s User Security web portal. To request reports on the ABII web portal, Medicare Compliance Officers can then submit a data request form for the report type they wish to access. Section C of this memorandum provides instructions for adding new users and submitting data request forms.</p>	<p><b>New user requests are due two weeks from the date of this memorandum</b></p>
<p><b>Contracts continuing from CY 2019:</b> No action is necessary if your contract has no changes in authorized users or their levels of access. Previously authorized users will retain their access to the ABII web portal. If necessary, MCOs can modify existing user access through Acumen’s User Security web portal. Contracts do not need to take any action to receive report types for which they have already successfully submitted a data request form. If a contract has not submitted a data request form but wishes to access a certain report, that contract’s MCO would submit a data request form. Section D of this memorandum provides instructions for submitting data request forms.</p>	
<p><b>All CY 2020 contracts:</b> Be prepared to receive and review notifications from Acumen regarding updated report availability.</p>	<p><b>Rolling basis: according to the report release schedule posted on the ABII web portal under the Help Documents Page in the Report Release Schedule folder</b></p>

#### ***D. User Authorization Instructions for Access to the ABII Web Portal***

The User Authorization section of this memorandum provides instructions for adding users by **December 2, 2019**. To gain or maintain access to the ABII web portal, have your contract's Medicare Compliance Officer (MCO) complete the following steps:

##### **1. Identify individuals who should have access to the ABII web portal.**

*If your contract is new in 2020*, your contract needs to authorize users for the ABII web portal. You may choose to authorize individuals who are currently users on other Acumen web portals, however, a user authorization is needed for each individual specifically for the ABII web portal.

*If your contract is continuing from 2019*, previously authorized users will retain their access to the ABII web portal. Your contract may choose to keep the same users or your contract may modify users. Note that, to comply with federal information security requirements, Acumen web portal will ask MCOs to reauthorize user access every 90 days .

For security purposes, each contract is limited to five authorized users on the ABII web portal. Authorized users will have access to all relevant features of the ABII web portal, including downloading reports, accessing discussion boards and receiving e-mail notifications.

##### **2. Log onto the User Security Web Portal**

Access to the ABII web portal is managed by each contract's MCO through Acumen's User Security web portal ([https://PartD.ProgramInfo.us/User\\_Security](https://PartD.ProgramInfo.us/User_Security)). The latest MCO on record for each contract in HPMS has been granted access to the User Security web portal if the contract is active in at least one Acumen related web portal.

To access the User Security web portal:

- a. Navigate to the web portal at [https://PartD.ProgramInfo.us/User\\_Security](https://PartD.ProgramInfo.us/User_Security).
- b. Agree to the Warning Notice.
- c. Enter your username and login password.

Note that new users will receive a Credential Email to set up a password before they can log in using the steps above. If your MCO does not have access to the User Security web portal or requires assistance logging in, please contact Acumen at [ABII@AcumenLLC.com](mailto:ABII@AcumenLLC.com).

##### **3. Designate Users and Authorize Access Permissions.**

If your contract is active in CY 2020, your MCO needs to log in to the User Security Web Portal to add new users and authorize access permissions or choose to authorize existing users to access your contract's information.

To designate users and authorize access permissions, MCOs need to complete the following steps through the User Security Web Portal:

- a. Add an existing and/or new user.
- b. Select the Web Portal and contract(s) for each user.
- c. Authorize access permissions for each user.

MCOs may also designate themselves as one of the five authorized users on the ABII web portal.

Following the user authorization process, Acumen will send the following to each newly authorized ABII web portal user:

- a. A Welcome Email with the ABII web portal user guide and web portal URL.
- b. A Credential Email with a unique One-Time Password Link and login username.

For a contract's users to receive access to reports within ABII, the MCO needs to fill out a form requesting the report be made available to users associated with the contract. The data request form is available on the web portal under the Help Documents section. Contract MCOs need to submit data request forms through the Upload Files page of the web portal. MCOs need to authorize themselves as one of the five authorized users for their contract in order to be able access the ABII web portal and submit data request forms. Only forms with a Form Status of "Complete" will be accepted, and forms need to follow the naming convention below to be processed:

*ContractID\_ABII\_Data\_Request\_Form.xlsx*

Only one type of report can be requested on each data request form. If an MCO wishes to request more than one report type, they need to complete and submit additional data request forms. If a contract has successfully submitted a data request form to access ABII reports for a prior year, they do not need to resubmit the request form.

For timely access to the ABII web portal, requestors need to complete all steps of the user authorization process by December 2, 2019.

If you have any questions or require assistance with the user authorization process, please contact Acumen at [ABII@AcumenLLC.com](mailto:ABII@AcumenLLC.com).