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Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
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Date: April 21, 2006

To: National Medicare Education Program Coordinating Committee

From: Mary Agnes Laureno  
Director,  
Office of Beneficiary Information Services, CMS

RE: Redesign of the Medicare Personal Plan Finder

In early May, we'll be requesting your input on a few documents related to an exciting change planned for the Medicare Personal Plan Finder (MPPF) on [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

The MPPF allows Medicare beneficiaries to compare their Medicare health coverage options. The tool includes information on Original Medicare, Medigap policies, and Medicare Advantage (MA) and other Medicare Health Plans. You can see the current version of the MPPF at [www.medicare.gov/MPPF/](http://www.medicare.gov/MPPF/).

The redesigned MPPF will go live on Medicare.gov on October 12, 2006. The goals of the redesign are to personalize information, simplify benefit descriptions, make it easier to compare plans, and improve interaction with the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder on the web. In addition, the tool will let users enroll in MA-only plans online (currently they can only enroll in MA-Prescription Drug plans online), and include estimated out-of-pocket cost information.

The materials you'll receive in early May will include drafts of the:

- online report comparing benefits among three plans,
- online report summarizing benefits for one plan, and
- revised, simplified benefit descriptions for Original Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and other Medicare Health Plans.

We'll be asking for your comments on these materials over a 3-week period. I hope you will take the time to provide us with your input, as it is invaluable to our redesign effort.

In the meantime, if you have any questions feel free to contact Wendy Burger, of my staff, at 410-786-1566 or [wendy.burger@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:wendy.burger@cms.hhs.gov). Thank you in advance for your input.