

Part D enrollment, benefit offerings, and plan payments

ISSUE: Medicare’s outpatient prescription drug benefit is about to enter its fourth year of operations. In this session, staff will present an analysis of data on Part D enrollment for 2008 and benefit offerings for 2009.

KEY POINTS: We will review information about the numbers of stand-alone and Medicare Advantage prescription drug plans participating in Part D for 2009 and the types of benefit designs they offer. We will also discuss trends in Part D’s premiums, number of plans with premiums at or below the regional thresholds for low-income premium subsidies, and CMS’s projected reconciliation amounts associated with plan payments in 2007.

ACTION: Commissioners should provide comments on the scope and substance of this analysis.

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