



Center for Medicaid and State Operations

SMDL #08-005

August 7, 2008

Dear State Medicaid Director:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is releasing the new Integrated Medicare and Medicaid State Plan Preprint for States that want to integrate and coordinate Medicare and Medicaid services for dual eligible beneficiaries. Attached to this letter are the instructions and Preprint template for State use.

The State Plan Preprint for Integrated Care Programs was developed for States to use on a voluntary basis as a tool to demonstrate and explain the key features of their Integrated Care Programs. The Preprint allows States the ability to highlight the arrangements provided between a State and Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plans (SNPs) that are also providing Medicaid services. The Preprint also provides the opportunity for States to confirm that their integrated care model complies with both federal Medicaid statutory and regulatory requirements. SNPs will continue to be required to comply with all Medicare statutory and regulatory requirements, including how they apply for SNP status, submit Medicare bids, and enter into a contract with CMS to provide Medicare services.

It is important for States to understand that the Preprint does not replace the need for States to operate under the appropriate Medicaid statutory authorities and to be in compliance with both statutory and regulatory requirements. States will still need to follow the usual process for submitting Medicaid waiver applications and contracts required under federal law to the appropriate CMS Regional and Central Office components.

CMS hopes this Preprint will help facilitate States' efforts to move toward developing integrated delivery system of care for dual eligibles. The goal of providing the full array of Medicare and Medicaid benefits through a single health plan is to improve the quality of care for dual eligible beneficiaries with better care coordination and fewer administrative burdens.

The CMS contact for the State Plan Preprint for Integrated Care Programs is Ms. Gale Arden, Director, Disabled and Elderly Health Program Group, who may be reached at 410-786-6810.

Sincerely,

/s/

Herb B. Kuhn
Deputy Administrator
Acting Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations

Enclosure

cc:

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