DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



CENTER FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

Date: July 17, 2006

To: Part D Plan Sponsors

From: Anthony J. Culotta, Director

Medicare Enrollment and Appeals Group

Subject: Clarification of Special Enrollment Period Policy

This memo serves to clarify the existing Special Enrollment Period (SEP) provided to members of Qualified State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs (SPAPs). As announced in the 2007 PDP and MA Call Letters issued on April 4, 2006, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services established an SEP for individuals who are enrolled by an SPAP to make one enrollment election up until the end of the calendar year. With this clarification, this SEP will allow SPAP members who have not been enrolled by their SPAP to have a one-time opportunity to enroll in a Part D plan, including one that coordinates with the SPAP, outside of other existing enrollment opportunities. This SEP will continue to enable individuals who belong to SPAPs to make one election annually to enroll in a Part D plan other than the one the SPAP elected on their behalf.

If you have questions about this policy clarification, please contact Jill Gotts at (410) 786-7794.