

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



CENTER FOR MEDICARE

DATE: April 30, 2025

TO: All Medicare Advantage Organizations, Prescription Drug Plans, Cost Plans, PACE Organizations, and Demonstrations

FROM: Jennifer R. Shapiro, Director, Medicare Plan Payment Group

SUBJECT: Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug System (MARx)
May 2025 Payment – INFORMATION

This letter provides information about the May 2025 Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug payment, which is scheduled for receipt on May 01, 2025, and other payment related items that may require plan action.

2015 Risk Adjustment Reconciliation Risk Adjustment Rerun

Included in the May 2025 payment are adjustments that reflect risk adjustment reconciliation reruns for payment year (PY) 2015. These adjustments were made to reinstate the service year 2012 CPT/HCPCS list used to filter FFS diagnoses from the data collection period. Although 2014 is the service year for PY 2015 payment, the 2012 CPT/HCPCS list was reinstated because it was the list in place when the reopening of the 2015 Part D payment reconciliation occurred. For further discussions regarding the years affected by the reinstatement of the service year 2012 CPT/HCPCS list used to filter FFS diagnoses, please refer to the Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug System (MARx) August 2024 Payment memo, published on July 31, 2024. The CPT/HCPCS list applied to this 2015 risk adjustment reconciliation rerun is posted on [CSSC Operations website](#) (i.e., Outpatient CPT HCPCS Excluded Services List for PYs 2013-2017).

Conversion of MARx to Amazon Web Services (AWS)

In July 2023, the MARx system successfully cut over from its mainframe-based architecture and currently is processing enrollment, premium, and payment information in a newly designed AWS cloud-based environment. Although the conversion was a success, we are aware of discrepancies that are affecting payment or reporting. This includes, for example, instances where MARx calculated payment using incorrect Part C and Part D risk scores. CMS is actively working to address these issues in future software fixes and data cleanups, prioritizing based on the nature and impact of the cleanup and will communicate with plans as we work through the

cleanups. If you have already submitted a trouble ticket, no further action is required by the plan. If you have been informed by the help desk that your ticket has been consolidated under a “master ticket,” that means we are aware of an issue or concern affecting multiple organizations. Knowing how many organizations are reporting the same problem under the master ticket allows us to assess the scale of the problem and helps us prioritize the fix to the issue. Questions regarding the MARx system can be sent to mapdhelp@cms.hhs.gov.

Sequestration Suspension

While the suspension of sequestration has ended, as required by the statute, we continue to apply the suspension of sequestration for retroactive payment adjustments made for the months of May 2020 through March 2022 and will sequester 1 percent of retroactive payment adjustments made for the months of April 2022 through June 2022 and 2 percent of payments and adjustments for months beginning with July 2022.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of the information within this letter or wish to inquire about the adjustment going into the November payment for your plans, please contact the MAPD Help Desk at mapdhelp@cms.hhs.gov, or 1-800-927-8069.