



New TRICAST Partnership with MetaStar Assists Plan Sponsors on Mandated CMS Data Validation

Milwaukee, WI (February 22, 2010) -- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) now require MA-PD and PDP plans to maintain ongoing monitoring of their Medicare Part C and D programs. The new Part C and D Data Validation requirements are effective for calendar year 2010.

Plan sponsors are beginning the process of scoping the effort of selecting a Data Validation Contractor and assessing their Q1 2011 budgets when DVR reporting begins.

An independent look at an organization's state of readiness will help guide next steps. An assessment of data validation readiness by TRICAST and MetaStar provides plan sponsors with a first step review of:

- Gap analysis of policies, procedures and required data
- Full review on all Part C and D criteria
- Recommendations on completing the Organizational Assessment Instrument (OAI)
- A strategy discussion to walk-through findings and recommendations, including vendor selection strategy or referrals {where desired}
- Budget support for recommended actions including a high/low dollar range with associated assumptions and calculations

The approach to data validation readiness by TRICAST/MetaStar offers a low-cost, low-impact method that helps Plan Sponsors understand what they need to do by:

- ➔ Reviewing existing documentation via a high-level gap analysis or in-depth "Mock Audit"
- ➔ Facilitating one or two day on-site "workshops" with key staff to familiarize them with the new requirements
- ➔ Comparing an organization's specific information against each regulation to identify gaps in data and policy
- ➔ Summarizing findings, providing recommendations and presenting a strategy call

A DVR from TRICAST/MetaStar Offers Predictable Costs & Quality Outcomes

Our experienced staff possesses superior expertise in Part C and D audits, and data analysis that uniquely qualifies us to help scope the impact of new regulations on an organization. Independent analysis provides an unbiased view of a Plan Sponsor's state of readiness. Budget range and methodology makes planning simpler.

About TRICAST, Inc.

TRICAST, Inc., founded in Milwaukee in 1997, uses pharmaceutical and medical claims analysis for benchmarking, audits and risk analysis for health benefit plan sponsors. The company also provides timely reporting on vendor performance, allowing opportunities for decisive responses. The net result is better program oversight, lowered plan costs and risk exposure.

TRICAST delivers data-driven cost control solutions every day. As a leading next-generation health information business, TRICAST offers programs, products and applications for the healthcare industry that assist risk entities controlling overall healthcare costs, with a specific focus on pharmaceutical benefits. Please visit www.tricast.com to learn more.

For the DVR effort TRICAST partnered with [MetaStar, Inc.](#), experts in HEDIS audits, to support the assessment of Part C documentation. As a combined effort, we provide data audits, risk analysis and applications that support a thorough oversight strategy.

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