

## **Risk Adjustment Data Validation – Implementation Timeline**

**Q:** When will the risk adjustment data validation program (RADV) begin?

**A:** In the HHS Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2014 (78 FR 15410), CMS stated that in conducting the risk adjustment data validation (RADV) program, it would adjust risk adjustment payments and charges based on the results of the RADV program in 2018 for 2016 benefit year data. CMS explained that issuers and auditors would have two preliminary years in which to implement and test the RADV program, and adjust their audit procedures in response to that experience. Risk adjustment payments and charges will continue to be adjusted in 2018 for 2016 benefit year data, in keeping with the original schedule.

However, CMS will not conduct RADV on 2014 data, originally one of two preliminary testing years. CMS will still conduct RADV in 2016 for 2015 benefit year data – thus, issuers and auditors will have one preliminary testing year instead of two in which to implement and test the RADV program, and adjust their audit procedures in response.

A revised timeline for risk adjustment data validation for 2015 benefit year data is included below:

- Fall 2015 – RADV trainings to begin
- Winter 2016 – Issuers select initial validation auditors
- Spring 2016 – Issuers submit initial validation auditors to CMS for approval
- Summer through Fall 2016 – Initial validation audit is conducted
- Fall 2016 through Winter 2017 – Second validation audit is conducted
- Winter 2017 – Preliminary RADV data released