Freedom of Information Officer  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
North Building, Room N2-20-06  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850  

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request  

Dear Freedom of Information Officer:  

The Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc., on behalf of itself and Action Alliance of Senior Citizens of Philadelphia, requests the following documents and information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552:  

The name, contact information, and specific plan identifying information including Region, of each Medicare Part D plan that has informed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of its intention to change its formulary sometime during 2006. In addition, we seek, for each such plan, the names of each drug on its formulary for which it proposes some change, whether it is removing the drug from the formulary, adding a prior authorization requirement or imposing any other utilization management tool, including but not limited to quantity or dosage limits, step therapies and changes in the tier of cost-sharing on which the drug is currently listed.  

We request that you provide this information on an expedited basis, as the Initial Enrollment Period for Part D will end on May 15, 2006 and the content of each plan’s formulary will be highly relevant to individuals’ choice of plan.
We also request that you waive fees for supplying this information. Both the Center for Medicare Advocacy and Action Alliance are well known non-profit advocacy organizations that educate and advocate on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries nationwide (the Center) and in Pennsylvania (Action Alliance). In carrying out our respective missions we prepare materials and provide trainings for Medicare beneficiaries, advocates and attorneys; in addition, we have multiple ways of communicating information to beneficiaries and their families and advocates. The information we request is highly useful to members of the public and will contribute to the public understanding of the Medicare Part D program. Both organizations will make the information available as broadly as possible in time for the May 15 deadline and beyond (for those who have Special Enrollment Periods at some time during the remainder of the year) as part of our efforts to assist individuals choose an appropriate Part D plan. Neither organization has a commercial interest in the information.

Sincerely,

Patricia B. Nemore
Attorney
On behalf of
Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc. and
Action Alliance of Senior Citizens