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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
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OFFICE OF AIDS
AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)

Management Memorandum
Memorandum Number: 2011-05

Date: October 19, 2011

TO: ADAP Coordinators/ADAP Enrollment Workers

SUBJECT: MEDICARE PART D OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2011,
October 15 – December 7, 2011

Medicare Part D Annual Coordinated Election Period (ACEP) – The Office of AIDS (OA), ADAP, would like to remind you that the Medicare Part D Open Enrollment period began on October 15, 2011 and continues through December 7, 2011 for coverage that starts on January 1, 2012. It is important to note that Medicare eligible ADAP clients who failed to enroll in a Part D Plan for 2011 will have their ADAP eligibility suspended, starting in mid-October, until they provide proof of enrollment in a Part D plan for 2012.

During the ACEP, Medicare beneficiaries who do not yet have a Part D plan may enroll in a Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) or a Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug plan (MA-PDs). Those who are already enrolled in a plan may also switch to a different PDP or MA-PD. Even beneficiaries who were satisfied with their plans in 2011 need to review their options to avoid being stuck in a plan that no longer works for them.

Beneficiaries who miss the new ACEP deadline may have to wait until open enrollment in the fall of 2012 to enroll in Part D, and may face a late enrollment penalty, unless they qualify for another Medicare enrollment period, or a Special Enrollment Period (SEP). Individuals who qualify for the Part D Low Income Subsidy (including all full and partial dual eligible) have a continuous SEP that allows them to enroll in or change plans at any time of year, regardless of the ACEP. For more detailed information on the Medicare Part D benefits, log on to www.medicare.gov.

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Also, please remember that ADAP clients who enrolled in the *OA Medicare Part D Premium Payment Program (MDPP)* for 2011 must reapply for premium payment assistance in 2012. These clients will be receiving a re-enrollment packet in the mail in the near future. For clients who were not enrolled in MDPP for 2011 and want to apply for assistance in 2012, ADAP will be forwarding the application packet to all ADAP enrollment sites. When you receive them, please make these forms available to your clients.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact your assigned OA ADAP Program Coordinator.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Celia Banda-Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Celia Banda-Brown, Chief
ADAP Section
Office of AIDS