

CMS presents its evidence and argument.

[70 FR 4525, Jan. 28, 2005, as amended at 75 FR 19824, Apr. 15, 2010]

§ 423.659 Evidence.

The hearing officer rules on the admissibility of evidence and may admit evidence that is inadmissible under rules applicable to court procedures.

§ 423.660 Witnesses.

(a) The hearing officer may examine the witnesses.

(b) The parties or their representatives are permitted to examine their witnesses and cross-examine witnesses of other parties.

§ 423.661 Witnesses lists and documents.

Witness lists and documents must be identified and exchanged at least 5 calendar days prior to the scheduled hearing.

[75 FR 19824, Apr. 15, 2010]

§ 423.662 Prehearing and summary judgment.

(a) *Prehearing.* The hearing officer may schedule a prehearing conference if he or she believes that a conference would more clearly define the issues.

(b) *Summary judgment.* Either party to the hearing, may ask the hearing officer to rule on a motion for summary judgment.

[72 FR 68734, Dec. 5, 2007]

§ 423.663 Record of hearing.

(a) A complete record of the proceedings at the hearing is made and transcribed and made available to all parties upon request.

(b) The record may not be closed until a hearing decision is issued.

§ 423.664 Authority of hearing officer.

In exercising his or her authority, the hearing officer must comply with the provisions of title XVIII and related provisions of the Act, the regulations issued by the Secretary, and general instructions issued by CMS in implementing the Act.

§ 423.665 Notice and effect of hearing decision.

(a) As soon as practical after the close of the hearing, the hearing officer issues a written decision that—

(1) Is based upon the evidence of record; and

(2) Contains separately numbered findings of fact and conclusions of law.

(b) The hearing officer provides a copy of the hearing decision to each party.

(c) The hearing decision is final and binding unless it is reversed or modified by the Administrator following review under § 423.666, or reopened and revised in accordance with § 423.668.

§ 423.666 Review by the Administrator.

(a) *Request for review by Administrator.* CMS or a Part D plan sponsor that has received a hearing decision may request a review by the Administrator within 15 calendar days after receipt of the hearing decision as provided under § 423.665(b) of this subpart. Both the Part D plan sponsor and CMS may provide written arguments to the Administrator for review.

(b) *Decision to review the hearing decision.* After receiving a request for review, the Administrator has the discretion to elect to review the hearing determination in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section or to decline to review the hearing decision.

(c) *Notification of Administrator determination.* The Administrator notifies both parties of his or her determination regarding review of the hearing decision within 30 calendar days after receipt of request for review. If the Administrator declines to review the hearing decision or the Administrator does not make a determination regarding review within 30 calendar days, the decision of the hearing officer is final.

(d) *Review by the Administrator.* If the Administrator elects to review the hearing decision regarding a contract determination, the Administrator shall review the hearing officer's decision and determine, based upon this decision, the hearing record, and any written arguments submitted by the Part D sponsor or CMS, whether the determination should be upheld, reversed, or modified.

§ 423.667

(e) *Decision by the Administrator.* The Administrator issues a written decision, and furnishes the decision to the PDP sponsor requesting review.

[70 FR 4525, Jan. 28, 2005, as amended at 72 FR 68734, Dec. 5, 2007; 75 FR 19824, Apr. 15, 2010]

§ 423.667 Effect of Administrator's decision.

A decision by the Administrator under section § 423.666(c) is final and binding unless it is reopened and revised in accordance with § 423.668.

§ 423.668 Reopening of a contract determination or decision of a hearing officer or the Administrator.

(a) CMS may reopen and revise an initial determination upon its own motion.

(b) *Contract determination.* A decision of a hearing officer that is unfavorable to any party and is otherwise final may be reopened and revised by the hearing officer upon the officer's own motion within 1 year of the notice of the hearing decision. Another hearing officer designated by CMS may reopen and revise the decision if the hearing officer who issued the decision is unavailable.

(c) *Decision of Administrator.* A decision by the Administrator that is otherwise final may be reopened and revised by the Administrator upon the Administrator's own motion within 1 year of the notice of the Administrator's decision.

(d) *Notices.* (1) The notice of reopening and of any revisions following the reopening is mailed to the parties.

(2) The notice of revision specifies the reasons for revisions.

[70 FR 4525, Jan. 28, 2005, as amended at 72 FR 68734, Dec. 5, 2007; 75 FR 19824, Apr. 15, 2010]

Subpart O—Intermediate Sanctions

§ 423.750 Types of intermediate sanctions and civil money penalties.

(a) The following intermediate sanctions may be imposed and will continue in effect until CMS is satisfied that the deficiencies that are the basis for the sanction determination have been corrected and are not likely to recur:

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(1) Suspension of the Part D plan sponsor's enrollment of Medicare beneficiaries.

(2) Suspension of payment to the Part D plan sponsor for Medicare beneficiaries enrolled after the date CMS notifies the organization of the intermediate sanction.

(3) Suspension of communication activities to Medicare beneficiaries by a Part D plan sponsor, as defined by CMS.

(b) CMS may impose civil money penalties as specified in 423.760.

[72 FR 68734, Dec. 5, 2007, as amended at 75 FR 19824, Apr. 15, 2010; 83 FR 16753, Apr. 16, 2018]

§ 423.752 Basis for imposing intermediate sanctions and civil money penalties.

(a) *All intermediate sanctions.* For the violations listed in this paragraph (a), CMS may impose one or more of the sanctions specified in § 423.750(a) of this subpart on any Part D plan sponsor with a contract. The Part D plan sponsor may also be subject to other remedies authorized under law.

(1) Fails substantially to provide medically necessary items and services that are required (under law or under the contract) to be provided to an individual covered under the contract, if the failure has adversely affected (or has the substantial likelihood of adversely affecting) the individual.

(2) Imposes on Part D plan enrollees premiums in excess of the monthly basic and supplemental beneficiary premiums permitted under section 1860D–1 *et seq.* of the Act and subpart F of this part.

(3) Acts to expel or refuses to re-enroll a beneficiary in violation of the provisions of this part.

(4) Engages in any practice that would reasonably be expected to have the effect of denying or discouraging enrollment (except as permitted by this part) by eligible individuals with the organization whose medical condition or history indicates a need for substantial future medical services.

(5) Misrepresents or falsifies information that it furnishes—

(i) To CMS; or