

September 2023

## Importance of Timely Submission of Medicare Risk Adjustment Data

Please note, this communication applies to Healthy Blue + Medicare<sup>SM</sup> (HMO D-SNP) offered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (Blue Cross NC).

Blue Cross NC receives member diagnosis data via traditional claims and encounters submissions as well as an alternate submission method (ASM). Member diagnosis data submitted through the ASM are submitted as a supplemental data file and are intended to support, enhance, and/or correct member diagnosis information for previously submitted claims or encounters. They are not intended to be the sole source of diagnosis information or to be used as an alternative to the standard claim or encounter submission.

Medicare Advantage organizations are required to submit member diagnosis data reported by our care provider partners or their provider organizations to CMS for Medicare risk adjustment (MRA) purposes. It is critical that claims, encounters, and supplemental data files be submitted promptly and in advance of the CMS deadlines for submission of MRA diagnosis data. Also, Blue Cross NC has established separate guidelines to help our care provider partners and their provider organizations meet their obligations for timely submission of MRA diagnosis data. These timeframes will help ensure that there is adequate time for processing, including error resolution and submission of MRA data to CMS.

The table below represents the applicable submission timeframes for different MRA risk score cycles. There are typically three risk score cycles for each submission period: Initial, mid-year, and final. The submission periods for the initial and mid-year risk score cycles have been completed for 2023; therefore, the submission deadlines are not displayed in the table below. With your help, we can continually build towards a future of shared success.

| Payment year risk score run | Dates of service                    | Deadline for Blue Cross NC to submit MRA data to CMS | Deadline for provider's or provider organization's submission of supplemental data files to Blue Cross NC |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Initial run 2024            | July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023 | Friday, September 1, 2023                            | Friday, August 4, 2023  |
| Final run 2023              | January 1 through January 31, 2022  | Wednesday, January 31, 2024                          | Friday, December 31, 2023   |

<https://www.bluecrossnc.com/providers/networks-programs/blue-medicare-providers/healthy-blue-medicare>

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Senior Health, DBA Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, is an HMO D-SNP plan with a Medicare contract and a NC State Medicaid Agency Contract (SMAC). Enrollment in Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Senior Health depends upon contract renewal.

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NCBCBS-CR-036272-23-CPN35794 September 2023