

FOIA REQUEST FROM PAUL BURKE SUBMITTED TO HHS ONLINE JULY 15, 2013,

CONTROL # 071620137079

I request copies of language provided by Medicare to Accountable Care Organizations for signs and informing beneficiaries about the Shared Savings Program, as identified on pp.67946-67947 of the Federal Register 11/2/11 (ACO Final Rule)

P.67946 said Medicare would provide language for signs and notices:

"Nor should posting signs be inappropriately burdensome, since CMS will develop appropriate language"

"make available standardized written notices developed by CMS"

P.67947 said Medicare may provide language for marketing materials:

"To the extent that CMS supplies templates or model language for ACOs to use in marketing materials, we will ensure it complies with the Plain Writing Act of 2010."

The signs and notices tell patients that the facility is part of an ACO, that the patient may go elsewhere if desired, how to opt out of data sharing, and other issues.

I requested signs and written notices from aco@cms.gov, and they answered, " We provide the standardized written notices to ACOs upon acceptance to the program. They are not available on our website." (see below)

So Medicare was able to identify what I need, and it is readily available.

I am an individual seeking information for personal use and not for a commercial use.

I am willing to pay fees for this request up to a maximum of \$100. If you estimate that the fees will exceed this limit, please inform me first.

I request that the information I seek be provided in electronic format, by email.

If you have any questions about handling this request, you may call me at 304-876-2227.

from: Globe1234.com Researcher
to: aco@cms.hhs.gov
sent: Wed, Jul 10, 2013 at 3:46 PM
subject: standardized written notices developed by CMS

Dear Ms Weiss:

The 11/2/11 final rules for ACOs say participants will provide the public:

"standardized written notices developed by CMS" to tell patients that the facility is part of an ACO, and the patient may go elsewhere if desired. (Federal Register 11/2/11 p.67946)

I do not find these "standardized written notices" on your websites. Could you point me to a link, or send them to me?

I am interested in handouts and signs if you have standard versions.

Thank you,

Paul Burke

304-876-2227

from: CMS ACO - CMSACO@cms.hhs.gov
to: Globe1234.com Researcher
date: Thu, Jul 11, 2013 at 5:32 AM
subject RE: standardized written notices developed by CMS

Dear Mr. Burke,

Thank you for your interest in the Medicare Shared Savings Program. We provide the standardized written notices to ACOs upon acceptance to the program. They are not available on our website.

Sincerely,

Medicare Shared Savings Program Staff
7500 Security Blvd. Baltimore, MD 21244
ACO@cms.hhs.gov