



May 10, 2022

Maureen Connors, PharmD, MPH, BCPS
Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, C1-24-25
Baltimore, MD 21244
Sent via electronic mail

RE: 42 CFR § 423.160 Standards for Electronic Prescribing (b) Standards (5) Formulary and Benefits

Maureen,

On November 6, 2020, NCPDP sent a letter to Shelly Winston requesting the adoption of the NCPDP Formulary and Benefit Standard Version 53 in 42 CFR § 423.160 Standards for Electronic Prescribing (b) Standards (5) Formulary and Benefits.

NCPDP is rescinding this request. The reasons for the withdrawal are as follows:

- Other standards such as SCRIPT, Telecommunication and Real-Time Prescription Benefit potentially having similar implementation timeframes
- Version 53 is not backwards compatible with Version 3.0 which makes transitioning more difficult
- Eligibility support issues
- Two-year implementation timeline is too short

NCPDP is currently creating Version 60 of the Formulary and Benefit Standard which will be backwards compatible. The goal is to present a Data Element Request Form (DERF) in August 2022 for member consideration and ballot.

For direct inquiries or questions related to this request, please contact:

Margaret Weiker, Vice President Standards Development
standards@ncdpd.org
(480) 477-1000, ext. 170

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Ann C. Stember". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lee Ann C. Stember, President & CEO
National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP)
9240 E. Raintree Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(480) 477-1000 x 108