

§417.456

and other charges collected from its Medicare enrollees during that period.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 58 FR 38082, July 15, 1993; 59 FR 59941, Nov. 21, 1994; 60 FR 45678, Sept. 1, 1995]

§417.456 Refunds to Medicare enrollees.

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this section—

Amounts incorrectly collected means amounts collected that are in excess of those specified in §417.452. It includes amounts collected when the enrollee was believed not entitled to Medicare benefits if the enrollee is later determined to have been entitled to Medicare benefits and HCFA is liable for payments as specified in §417.450.

Other amounts due means amounts due a Medicare enrollee for services obtained outside the HMO or CMP if they were—

- (1) Emergency services;
- (2) Urgently needed services for which the HMO or CMP has assumed financial responsibility; or
- (3) On appeal under subpart Q of this part, found to be services the enrollee was entitled to have furnished by the HMO or CMP.

(b) *Basic commitment.* An HMO or CMP must agree to refund all amounts incorrectly collected from its Medicare enrollees, or from others on behalf of the enrollees, and any other amounts due the enrollees or others on their behalf.

(c) *Refund by lump sum payment.* An HMO or CMP must make refunds to its current and former Medicare enrollees, or to others who have made payments on behalf of enrollees, by lump sum payment for the following:

- (1) Incorrectly collected amounts that were not collected as premiums.
- (2) Other amounts due.
- (3) All amounts due, if the HMO or CMP is going out of business.

(d) *Refund by premium adjustment or lump sum payment or both.* An HMO or CMP may make refund by adjustment of future premiums, by lump sum payment, or by a combination of both methods, for amounts that were incorrectly collected in the form of premiums or through a combination of premium payments and other charges.

(e) *Refund when enrollee has died or cannot be located.* If an enrollee has died or cannot be located after reasonable effort by the HMO or CMP, the HMO or CMP must make the refund in accordance with State law.

(f) *Reduction by HCFA.* If the HMO or CMP does not make refund in accordance with paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section by the end of the contract period following the end of the contract period during which an amount was determined to be due an enrollee, HCFA reduces its payment to the HMO or CMP by the amounts incorrectly collected or otherwise due, and arranges for those amounts to be paid to the Medicare enrollee.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 58 FR 38079, July 15, 1993; 60 FR 45678, Sept. 1, 1995]

§417.458 Recoupment of uncollected deductible and coinsurance amounts.

An HMO or CMP agrees not to recoup deductible and coinsurance amounts for which Medicare enrollees were liable in a previous contract period except in the following circumstances:

(a) The HMO or CMP failed to collect the deductible and coinsurance amounts during the contract period in which they were due because of—

- (1) Underestimation of the actuarial value of the deductible and coinsurance amounts; or
- (2) A billing error.

(b) The HMO or CMP has identified the amounts and obtained advance HCFA approval of the recoupment and the method and timing of recoupment.

(c) The HMO or CMP collects these amounts no later than the end of the contract period following the contract period during which they were found to be due.

[50 FR 1346, Jan. 10, 1985, as amended at 58 FR 38082, July 15, 1993; 60 FR 45678, Sept. 1, 1995]

§417.460 Disenrollment of beneficiaries by an HMO or CMP.

(a) *General rule.* Except as provided in paragraphs (b) through (i) of this section, an HMO or CMP may not—

- (1) Disenroll a Medicare beneficiary; or