

ATTACHMENT I

MEPS-7-L1
(3-2009)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-0001

FROM THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
AND THE AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

Recently, we provided you with the Health Insurance Cost Study questionnaire from the insurance component of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS-IC). If you have returned your questionnaire, please disregard this letter and accept our thanks for participating in this very important study.

If you have not completed the questionnaire, please **complete and return it within 15 days**. We have enclosed another copy of the questionnaire with a postage-paid envelope for your convenience. In addition to the completed questionnaire, please include a copy of each of your health plan brochures describing the benefits offered, or a copy of your benefits sheet summarizing the benefits offered by each of your plans. Your response to this voluntary study is important to ensure that accurate information is available for policymakers to make important decisions about our Nation's healthcare system.

This information is not subject to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy rules because it does not ask for any individually identifiable health information.

We realize that your time is valuable. Therefore, we accept reasonable estimates when book figures are not readily available. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Governments Division of the U.S. Census Bureau on 1-888-206-5068, weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern Time or by fax on 301-763-6833.

We are conducting this study under the authority of Section 913 of the Public Health Service Act (Title 42, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 299b-2). Sections 924c and 308d of that Act (42 U.S.C. Section 299c-3(c) and 42 U.S.C. Section 242m, respectively) ensure that the information you report will be released only to authorized staff of the Census Bureau, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and their authorized researchers and contractors. This survey has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and given an OMB approval number which appears in the upper right-hand corner of the form. If this number was not displayed, we could not conduct this survey or request your participation.

If you would like more information on the MEPS-IC or the survey sponsor, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), please visit the AHRQ Web site at <http://www.meps.ahrq.gov>.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

C. Harvey Monk, Jr.
Associate Director, Economic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau

Steven B. Cohen, Ph.D.
Director, Center for Financing, Access
and Cost Trends
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Enclosures



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