

### Description of the 2015 NHIS Followback Survey

The 2015 NHIS Followback survey will build on the pilot testing and methodological work completed in the National Health Care Interview Survey (NHCIS), which was conducted in 2013. The NHCIS recontacted a probability sample of 2012 NHIS sample adult respondents to expand the depth and breadth of information related to the Affordable Care Act. Administered by the Census Bureau, this multimode follow-back survey provided valuable health-related information on a nationally representative sample at a second point in time. Its secondary purpose was to evaluate the feasibility of leveraging the NHIS to develop internet panels for future followback surveys as a less expensive and quicker alternative to telephone and in-person interviews.

Similar to the NHCIS, in 2015 a probability sample of approximately 12,000 adult respondents that are not part of the sample frame for the MEPS will be identified to respond to the NHIS Followback survey several months after their original NHIS interview. Particular focus will be on uninsured, newly insured, and those who have changed insurance in the past year.

Respondents will be approached by postal letter or email to complete the roughly 20 minute long, self-administered NHIS Followback survey via a mail questionnaire, an internet form or a telephone interview. The questionnaire to be used in the NHIS Followback survey (included as Attachment 3g) was pilot tested in the 2013 NHCIS and draws its content almost entirely from NHIS questionnaire items. Because the 2015 NHIS Followback survey uses a combination of mail, telephone and internet modes for data collection, its coverage is more complete than a followback that uses only the internet; at the same time, this approach allows us to build on the preliminary work done in the 2013 NHCIS to evaluate the quality of the data from an internet-only followback survey.