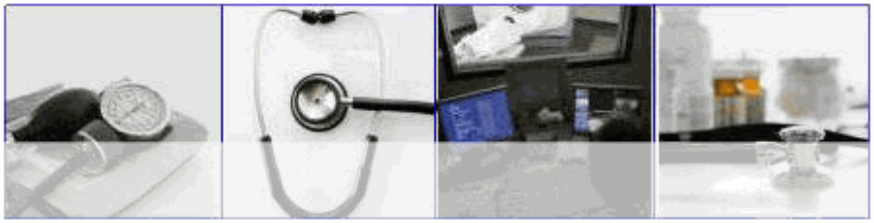


Use of Medicare Information to Improve Health Care Delivery

Karen Milgate,

Director, Office of Policy

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Agenda

- Use of Medicare Data to Improve Health Care Delivery
- CMS Initiatives to Make Medicare Information Available
- Protecting Identifiable Medicare Data
- For More Information…

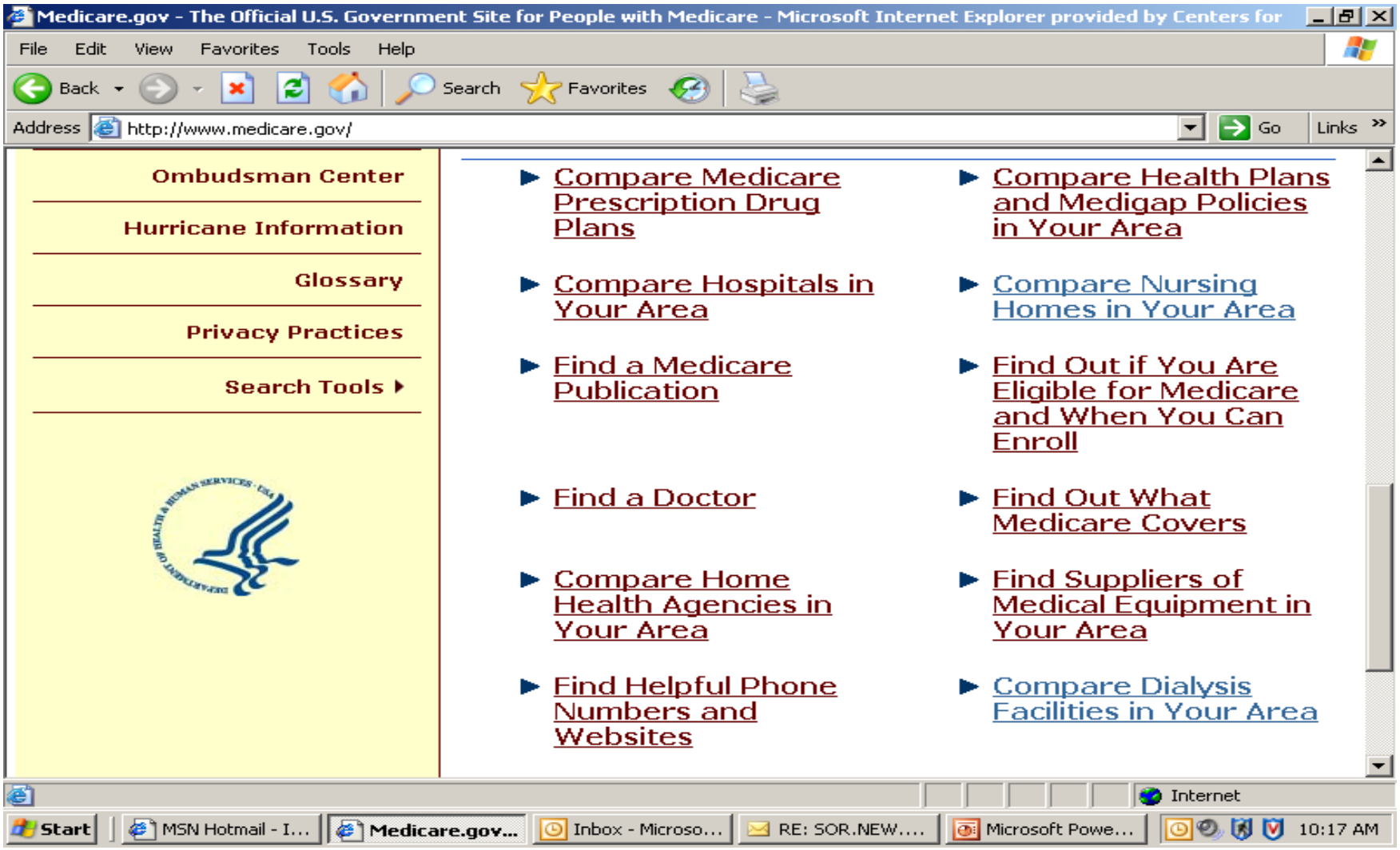
Improving the Delivery of Health Care with Medicare Data

- **Transparency of quality and price information to foster more informed decision-making**
  - **Providers: support quality assessment and improvement efforts**
  - **Consumers: support decision-making about plans, providers, and treatments**
  - **Purchasers: support alignment of incentives for high value health care**

Different Consumer Choices

- Health Plans
- Providers
- Treatments

Compare Websites



High Consumer Interest

- **Compare Website Page Views – September 2008**
  - **Hospital – 1.2 million**
  - **Nursing Home – 1.4 million**
  - **Home Health – 419,000**
  - **Dialysis Facilities – 111,000**
  - **Physician Directory – 1.9 million**
  - **Medicare Operations Compare – 1.6 million**
  - **Health and Drug Plan Finder – 3 million**

Hospital Compare

- Clinical Process Measures
- Safety
- Mortality rates for heart attack, heart failure and pneumonia
- Patient Experience of Care
- Reimbursement Rates
- Volume
- Searchable by hospital name, zip code, city, county or state

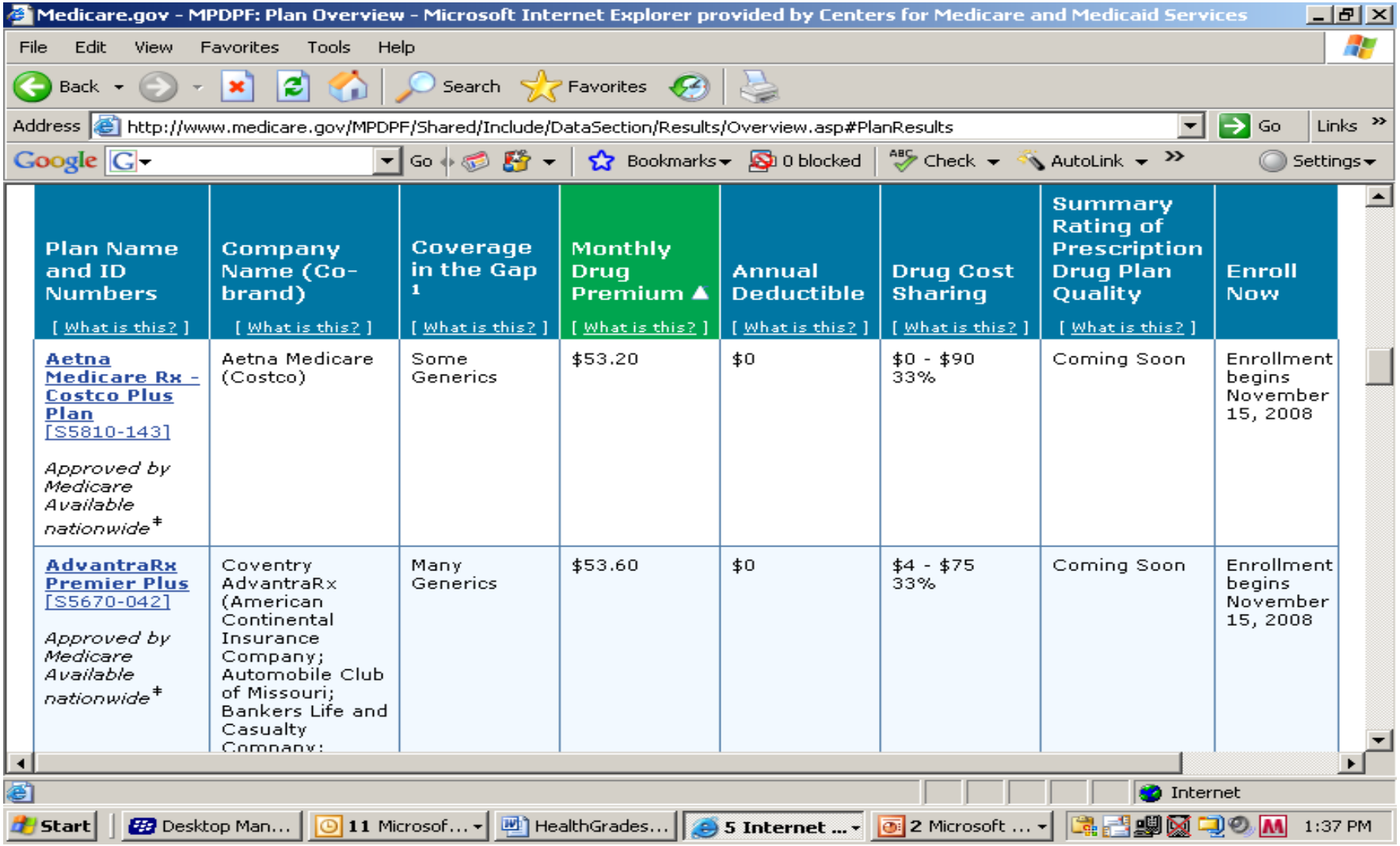
Provider Reimbursement Information

- **Common and Elective Procedures**
  - Hospital Inpatient - included on Hospital Compare
  - Outpatient
  - Physician Office
  - Ambulatory Surgery Center
- **Available at www.cms.hhs.gov/healthcareconinit**
- **Episodes of Care**

Plan Finder Websites

- Medicare Advantage Private Health Plans
- Prescription Drug Plans
- Quality, Cost, and Coverage information designed to help beneficiaries select the plan that best meets their needs
- Available at www.medicare.gov

Plan Finder Tool



Plan Name and ID Numbers [What is this?]	Company Name (Co-brand) [What is this?]	Coverage in the Gap [1] [What is this?]	Monthly Drug Premium ▲ [What is this?]	Annual Deductible [What is this?]	Drug Cost Sharing [What is this?]	Summary Rating of Prescription Drug Plan Quality [What is this?]	Enroll Now
Aetna Medicare Rx - Costco Plus Plan [S5810-143] *Approved by Medicare Available nationwide* ‡	Aetna Medicare (Costco)	Some Generics	$53.20	$0	$0 - $90 33%	Coming Soon	Enrollment begins November 15, 2008
AdvantraRx Premier Plus [S5670-042] *Approved by Medicare Available nationwide* ‡	Coventry AdvantraRx (American Continental Insurance Company; Automobile Club of Missouri; Bankers Life and Casualty Company;	Many Generics	$53.60	$0	$4 - $75 33%	Coming Soon	Enrollment begins November 15, 2008

Physician Quality and Price Information

- CMS Initiatives
  - Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI)
  - Better Quality Information for Medicare Beneficiaries Project (BQI)
  - Generating Medicare Performance Results Project (GEM) and Chartered Value Exchanges
- Challenges with physician specific information
- Measuring Physician Resource Use – Confidential Feedback

Continuing Efforts

- Updating and Expanding Quality and Price Transparency Initiatives
- Balancing legal requirements to protect beneficiary and individual physician information with need for more information on quality and efficiency
- Part D Data Regulation
- Chronic Conditions Warehouse

Protecting Identifiable Medicare Data

- **Four Key Laws**
  - **Social Security Act – Authorizes release of data for limited set of purposes**
  - **HIPPA – Protects patient identifiable health information**
  - **Privacy Act of 1974 – Protects individually identifiable information (patients and physicians)**
  - **FISMA – Security requirements for use and release of individually identifiable information**

Protecting Identifiable Medicare Data

- **Use and Release only for limited statutorily authorized purposes**
  - **Payment-Related**
  - **Research**
  - **Demonstration**
  - **Quality Improvement Organization**
  - **Payment and Care Coordination for Duals Population**
  - **Patient Consent**

For more information…

- www.medicare.gov
- www.cms.hhs.gov
- www.hhs.gov/valuedriven
- www.resdac.umn.edu

Thank you