FORM **MEPS-15(S)-I** (5-8-2000)

(2000)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

Medical Expenditure Panel Survey

## **PLAN INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRES**

### A FEW IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

This reporting package includes three blank MEPS-15(S), Plan Information Questionnaires. Please report for a MAXIMUM of three representative plans offered by your company. Please use the criteria below to determine the plans for which you should report.

- If your organization offered more than one Exclusive Provider Plan (HMO, IPA, EPO) to its active employees and each plan offered a similar level of benefits and premiums, complete only one MEPS-15(S) form for the HMO plan with the largest enrollment.
- If your organization offered more than one Exclusive Provider Plan (HMO, IPA, EPO) to its active employees and each plan offered a different level of benefits and/or premiums, complete a MEPS-15(S) form for each of the two plans which represent the largest enrollment.
- If your organization offered more than one Mixture of Preferred and Any Provider Plans (PPO, POS), for example high, standard, or low option, complete a MEPS-15(S) form for each option if the level of benefits and/or premiums differ.
- If your organization offered more than one Conventional or Indemnity Plan, complete a MEPS-15(S) for the largest plan offered.

If you require assistance in plan selection, please call 888-206-8023.

#### **PROVIDER CATEGORIES**

#### **Exclusive Providers**

(Examples: Most HMO, IPA, and EPO-type plans)

• Enrollees must go to providers associated with the plan except in an emergency. There is typically no cost or a small fixed cost for each physician visit.

#### **Conventional or Indemnity Providers**

• Enrollees may go to providers of their choice on a fee-for-service basis. The plan does not have any associated providers.

# Mixture of Preferred and Any Providers (Examples: Most PPO and POS-type plans)

• Enrollees may go to a set of "preferred" providers associated with the plan or providers of their choice. If they go to a non-preferred provider, they face higher costs.