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# Program Memorandum Intermediaries/Carriers

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Department of Health &  
Human Services (DHHS)  
Centers for Medicare &  
Medicaid Services (CMS)

Transmittal AB-02-046

Date: APRIL 12, 2002

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## CHANGE REQUEST 2065

**SUBJECT: Availability of Deceased Beneficiary Date of Death Files (Calendar Years 2000 and 2001)**

The purpose of this Program Memorandum (PM) is to inform you that the CMS-created annual computer files of all deceased beneficiaries (Option B) are now available for contractors to download from the CMS Data Center. These files contain death dates on all Medicare beneficiaries who died during calendar years 2000 and 2001. Refer to sections 3707 of the Medicare Intermediary Manual and 7100 of the Medicare Carriers Manual regarding these files. Contractors must identify and recover payments with a billed date of service that is after the beneficiary's date of death. The identification of improperly paid claims must be performed, at a minimum, on an annual fiscal year basis, starting fiscal year 2001 for beneficiaries who died the previous fiscal year. In addition, the associated overpayment recoupment must be performed as soon as administratively possible, but by no later than 1 year after identification. The following are the dataset naming conventions that you must use to access these date-of-death files:

- 2000 Date-of-Death File [c@pig.#dbpc.deceased.benes.dod2000](mailto:c@pig.#dbpc.deceased.benes.dod2000)
- 2001 Date-of-Death File [c@pig.#dbpc.deceased.benes.dod2001](mailto:c@pig.#dbpc.deceased.benes.dod2001)

**Note:** These files also contain date-of-death data for Railroad Retirement beneficiaries.

**The *effective date* for this PM is April 12, 2002.**

**The *implementation date* for this PM is April 12, 2002.**

**These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.**

**This PM may be discarded after October 1, 2002.**

**If you have any questions, contact Val Allen on (410) 786-7443 or Joel Cohen on (410) 786-3349.**