

**Kidney Medicare Drugs Awareness and Education Initiative  
Calendar of Key Medicare Part D Dates  
2005-2006**

2005											
Jan-05	Feb-05	Mar-05	Apr-05	May-05	Jun-05	Jul-05	Aug-05	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05
				1- CMS starts sending letters to those with Medicare/Medicaid (duals) who qualify for extra help SW collects and files letters							
				31 - SSA starts sending letters to those who may qualify for extra help							
				15- CMS sends letters to SSI only who qualify for extra help							
				1 - SSA starts accepting applications for LIS SW collects letters							
							MD & RN begins reviewing meds				
							MD, RN & RD urge patients to start making drug lists to help them choose a plan				
							SW starts tracking patient income/resources				
							16 - Teleconference				
							16 - SW begins distributing patient education material				
							16 - Employers begin sending creditable coverage letters				
							16 - Medigap plans begin sending creditable coverage letters				
							20 - Teleconference				
							SW collects and files letters				
							SW reminds those without creditable coverage of higher premium for late joiners				
							1 - Part D plans start sending mailings to people on Medicare				
							7 - CMS sends <i>Medicare &amp; You</i> handbooks				
							13- Part D drug plans & formularies online and at 1-800-MEDICARE				
							18 - Teleconference				
							27 - CMS begins mailing auto-enrollment information to duals				
							15 - Teleconference				
							15 - Part D drug plans begin accepting applications for Part D				
							20 - Teleconference				
							31 - Last date for duals to change plans for 1/1/06				
							31 - Medicaid drug coverage ends for duals				
2006											
Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06
1 - Low-income subsidy (extra help) begins											
1 - Part D coverage replaces Medicaid coverages for duals											
1 - Part D coverage starts for those who joined by 12/31/05											
17 - Teleconference											
			CMS mails reminder letter to those who have not joined Part D yet								
			15 - Open enrollment ends; States or CMS enrolls SSI, QMB, SLMB, QI-1; new to Medicare have 6 months								
			15 - First day to change plans for 2007; duals can change any time								
			31- Last day to change plans for 2007								