



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC 20415

Office of the
Inspector General

July 30, 2024

Report No. 2024-CRAG-019

MEMORANDUM FOR BARBARA HANSEN

Program Manager and Contracting Officer
HIO, FEIO, FEHB 3

FROM: LINDSAY J. HABER
Senior Team Leader
OIG, OA, CRAG

SUBJECT: Final Report on AvMed Health Plan's 2024 Proposed Rate
Reconciliation

The United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducted a performance audit of AvMed Health Plan's (Plan) 2024 rate reconciliation for plan code ML. The primary objective of the audit was to determine if the Plan developed its Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premium rates in accordance with Contract CS 2876 (Contract) as well as regulations and rating instructions established by OPM.

We are providing this memorandum to OPM's Healthcare and Insurance Office (HIO) to be used by OPM's Office of Actuaries in negotiating the Plan's 2025 premium rates. Based on the results of our audit, we recommend acceptance of the Plan's proposed 2024 rate reconciliation.

The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended by 5 U.S.C. § 404(e), requires that we submit all final reports making recommendations for corrective action to congressional committees of jurisdiction. Reports can also be provided to individual Members of Congress upon request. Additionally, if the OIG undertook the audit based upon a request or complaint from an outside entity, the OIG must provide the report to that entity. Finally, the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended by 5 U.S.C. § 420, requires us to make redacted versions of our final reports available to the public on our webpage.

Since this was a limited-scope audit, the OIG reserves the right to perform a full-scope audit of the Carrier in the future. Because of the nature of this audit, a draft report was not issued.

BACKGROUND

The audit was conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Contract; 5 United States Code Chapter 89; and 5 Code of Federal Regulations Chapter 1, Part 890. This audit was performed by the OPM OIG, as established by the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended (5 U.S.C. §§ 401-424). The objective, scope, and methodology used in conducting the audit are defined in the attached Exhibit.

OPM required each community-rated plan to submit its 2024 rate proposal by May 31, 2023. OPM requires an annual reconciliation be performed because most carriers estimated their rates at the time of proposal. Rates must be recalculated based on each carrier's actual 2024 community rates to determine if money is due the carrier or OPM.

The Plan provides health benefits to FEHBP members in the Southern Florida service area. The most recent audit of the Plan's South Florida region covered the contract year 2022 premium rate reconciliation. Rating documentation provided by the Plan during that audit was sufficient to support the 2022 FEHBP premium rates and the audit disclosed no cost adjustments.

RESULTS OF AUDIT

The Plan executed a Certificate of Accurate Pricing on April 24, 2024, related to the Attachment III – Reconciliation Forms, which the Plan submitted to OPM as prescribed by OPM's Community Rating Guidelines. The Plan's 2024 rates are as follows:

Plan Code	Benefit Option	Self	Self + One	Family

In our opinion, the cost or pricing data submitted by the Plan was adequate and the proposed reconciliation was prepared in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations; therefore, no cost adjustments were identified, and we recommend acceptance of the Plan's proposed 2024 rate reconciliation.

We discussed the status of the audit with Plan officials at an exit conference on July 29, 2024.

If I can be of assistance during your review of this report, please contact me on [REDACTED].

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OBJECTIVE, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY

The primary objective of the rate reconciliation audit was to determine if the Plan's premium rates reported to OPM were established in accordance with applicable laws, contract regulations, and OPM's 2024 Community Rating Guidelines.

To accomplish our objective, we examined the Plan's premium rate calculations along with related documents as a basis for validating the premium rates. We examined applicable expenses considered in the calculation of the premium rates to verify that the cost data used was accurate, complete, and valid. We also interviewed Plan officials to determine the oversight the Plan has over the rating process. We used the Contract, the Federal Employees Health Benefits Acquisition Regulation, and OPM's Community Rating Guidelines to Community-Rated Carriers to determine the propriety of the Plan's premium rate calculations.

Generally accepted government auditing standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the proposed reconciliation is free of material misstatement. The audit was conducted remotely from June 10, 2024, through July 29, 2024. The audit covered contract year 2024.

We obtained an understanding of the Plan's internal control structure but did not use the information to determine the nature, timing, and extent of our review procedures. Our review of internal controls was limited to the procedures the Plan has in place to ensure that the claims experience data and other costs included in the Premium rate development were appropriate, which included tests of applicable costs considered in the calculation of the premium rates.

In conducting this performance audit, we relied to varying degrees on computer-generated data, including billings, enrollment, and claims data provided by the Plan. We did not verify the reliability of the data generated by the various information systems involved. However, nothing came to our attention during our audit testing utilizing the computer-generated data to cause us to doubt its reliability. We believe that the available data was sufficient to achieve the audit objectives.