CMS data breach

On Friday, Oct. 19, 2018, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced it had detected a security breach through the HealthCare.gov direct enrollment pathway, an enrollment tool used by some health insurance agents. CMS began the initial investigation of unusual system activity in the direct enrollment pathway on Oct. 13, 2018, and a breach was declared on Oct. 16, 2018. CMS alerted the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace on Oct. 19, 2018, by press release. A copy of the CMS press release is here.

The direct enrollment pathway is currently disabled until further notice. Agents should plan ahead in case the system is not available for open enrollment. Enrollment through HealthCare.gov is still available and secure. As we receive subsequent communication from CMS on this issue, we will ensure that this information is forwarded to the agent community.