than 12 calendar months before the beginning of plan years 2014 and beyond. OPM will publish the FEHB-specific MLR threshold no later than 8 months before the beginning of plan year 2013.

(c) In place of the credibility adjustment at 45 CFR 158.230-158.232, OPM will set a separate credibility adjustment to account for the special circumstances of small FEHB plans in annual rate instructions to carriers.

[77 FR 19524, Apr. 2, 2012]

1602.170-15 Subcontractor.

Subcontractor means any supplier, distributor, vendor, or firm that furnishes supplies or services to or for a prime contractor or another subcontractor, except for providers of direct medical services or supplies pursuant to the Carrier's health benefits plan.

[52 FR 16038, May 1, 1987. Redesignated at 53 FR 51783, Dec. 23, 1988, and further redesignated at 55 FR 27414, July 2, 1990; 62 FR 47574, Sept. 10, 1997 and 76 FR 38285, June 29, 2011]

1602.170-16 Large Provider Agreement.

- (a) Large Provider Agreement means an agreement between—
- (1) An FEHB carrier, at least 25 percent of which total contracts are FEHB enrollee contracts, and
- (2) A vendor of services or supplies such as mail order pharmacy services, pharmacy benefit management services, mental health and/or substance abuse management services, preferred aprovider organization services, utilization review services, and/or large case or disease management services. This representative list includes organizations that own or contract with direct providers of healthcare or supplies, or organizations that process claims or manage patient care. A hospital is not considered to be a vendor for purposes of this chapter.
- (i) Where the total costs charged to the FEHB carrier for a contract term for FEHB members, including benefits and services, are reasonably expected to exceed 5 percent of the carrier's total FEHB benefits costs, or
- (ii) Where the total administrative costs charged to the FEHB carrier for the contract term for FEHB members are reasonably expected to exceed 5 percent of the carrier's total FEHB ad-

ministrative costs (applicable to agreements where the provider is not responsible for FEHB benefits costs).

- (3) As used in this section, the term "carrier" does not include local health plans that serve under an umbrella arrangement with an FEHB carrier.
- (b) The FEHB Program Annual Accounting Statement for the FEHB Plan for the prior contract year will be used to determine the 5 percent threshold under Large Provider Agreements.
- (c) Large Provider Agreements based on cost analysis are subject to the provisions of FAR 52.215-2, "Audit and Records-Negotiation."
- (d) Large Provider Agreements based on price analysis are subject to the provisions of 48 CFR 1646.301 and 1652.246-70.

[70 FR 31379, June 1, 2005. Redesignated at 76 FR 38285, June 29, 2011]

PART 1603—IMPROPER BUSINESS PRACTICES AND PERSONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Subpart 1603.70—Misleading, Deceptive, or Unfair Advertising

Sec.

1603.7001 Policy.

1603.7002 Additional guidelines.

1603.7003 Contract clause.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 8913; 40 U.S.C. 486(c); 48 CFR 1.301.

Source: 52 FR 16039, May 1, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart 1603.70—Misleading, Deceptive, or Unfair Advertising

1603.7001 Policy.

(a) OPM prepares and distributes or makes available to Federal employees and annuitants a comparison booklet which presents summary information and a benefits brochure which details benefits, limitations, and premium rates for all participating plans. OPM does not encourage, support, or reimburse participating carriers for the costs of advertisements. However, while OPM believes that advertising is unnecessary, it recognizes that the decision to use advertising rests with each carrier.