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Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Programs

The Stage 1 final rule set the foundation for the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs by establishing requirements for the electronic capture of clinical data, including providing patients with electronic copies of health information.

The Stage 2 final rule expanded upon the Stage 1 criteria with a focus on ensuring that the meaningful use of EHRs supported the aims and priorities of the National Quality Strategy. Stage 2 criteria encouraged the use of health IT for continuous quality improvement at the point of care and the exchange of information in the most structured format possible.

Stay up to date on the latest EHR news and updates by following us on [Twitter](#) and by subscribing to the [EHR Listserv](#).

Announcements

- On November 14, 2016 we published the Medicare Program: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; Organ Procurement Organization Reporting and Communication; Transplant Outcome Measures and Documentation Requirements; Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs; Payment to Nonexcepted Off-Campus Provider-Based Department of a Hospital; Hospital Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Program; Establishment of Payment Rates Under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule for Nonexcepted Items and Services Furnished by an Off-Campus Provider-Based Department of a Hospital final rule with comment period which contains several changes that will directly affect the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. To access the published rule, please click [here](#).
- On November 4, 2016 we published the Medicare Program; Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and Alternative Payment Model (APM) Incentive under the Physician Fee Schedule, and Criteria for Physician-Focused Payment Models final rule with comment period. MACRA replaces the Sustainable Growth Rate formula by paying clinicians for the value and quality of care they provide. To access the published rule, please click [here](#).
- To learn more about the Quality Payment Program and its changes for Medicare eligible professionals currently eligible for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program, visit the [official website](#). [Subscribe to the Quality Payment Program listserv for updates](#).
- All Medicaid eligible professionals, eligible hospitals, and CAHs should refer to their State Medicaid offices for information on attestation timeframes for the 2016 program year.

Dates to Remember

CY 2016 EHR Incentive Programs attestation deadline	February 28, 2017
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