



Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act

HITECH and Meaningful Use

- An Overview -



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HITECH and Meaningful Use

- An Overview -

- ✓ **Background**
- ✓ **What is “Meaningful Use (MU)”**
- ✓ **MU Criteria – Core and Menu Measures**
- ✓ **Federal and State Incentives**
- ✓ **Eligibility and Registration**
- ✓ **Payment Schedule – Medi-Cal and Medicare**
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Background

- 2009 – American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
 - Included the HITECH Act: \$27B budget
 - Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) responsible for implementing the HITECH Act
- 2010 – EHR Standards and Certification
 - CMS Final Rules published:
 - Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program (MU)

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What is “Meaningful Use”



MU is a series of goals, objectives and measures that enable significant and measureable improvements through a transformed healthcare delivery system.

Five MU goals:

- Improve quality, safety and efficiency and reduce healthcare disparities
- Engage patient and families in their health care
- Coordinate care
- Raise the health status of the population
- Maintain privacy and security of systems and data

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What is “Meaningful Use”



The HITECH Act specifies three main components of meaningful use:

- The use of a certified EHR in a meaningful manner
- The use of certified EHR technology for electronic exchange of health information to improve quality of care
- The use of certified EHR technology to submit clinical quality and other measures

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Meaningful Use Criteria: Core and Menu Measures

Measures are defined for each of three stages:

- Stage 1 (2011) – current criteria available
- Stage 2 (2014) - criteria to be released in 2012
- Stage 3 (TBD) – no criteria available



Meaningful Use Criteria: Core and Menu Measures

- Measures are defined for Eligible Professionals (EPs) and Eligible Hospitals (EHs)
- Measures may contain some exclusions depending on the type of practice
- Core Measures are required, menu measures require a minimum number based on a subset of menu criteria
- Clinical Quality Measures – core, alternate

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Federal and State Incentives

- Incentive based on attestation of meaningful use through the use of an ONC certified EHR system
- Medicare and Medi-Cal have different incentive programs for EP(s) and EH(s)
- Must elect to participate in only one incentive program during the registration process
- May elect to change from one incentive program to another, but this can only be done once prior to 2015



Federal and State Incentives

- CMS administers the Medicare Incentive Program
- CMS distributes the Medicaid incentive funding to the States
- State administers the Medi-Cal Incentive Program

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Eligibility and Registration

- Medi-Cal - Eligible Professionals (Mental Health)
 - Psychiatrists (MD)
 - Medical Doctor (MD)
 - Doctor of Osteopathy (DO)
 - Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- ✓ Minimum 30% Medi-Cal client volume criteria.
- ✓ Must see 50% of clients at a facility with certified EHR
- ✓ Non-hospital based professionals

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Eligibility and Registration

- Medicare - Eligible Professionals (Mental Health)
 - Psychiatrists (MD)
 - Medical Doctor (MD)
 - Doctor of Osteopathy (DO)
- ✓ Non-hospital based professionals

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Eligibility and Registration

- Eligible Hospitals
 - Acute Care Hospitals
 - Critical Access Hospitals
 - Children's Hospitals (Medi-Cal Only)

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Eligibility and Registration

- **Medi-Cal - Eligible Professionals**
 - Register on CMS Website
 - Register on the State Website
- **Medicare - Eligible Professionals**
 - Register on CMS Website
 - Register in Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS)

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Eligibility and Registration

- Must have a valid NPI.
- Register for NPI via the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)
- EP may assign incentive payment to a single taxpayer ID number.



Payment Schedule

- Medi-Cal

- Total incentive payment - \$63,750 over six years
- Year 1 - \$21,250
- Years 2-6 - \$8,500 per year
- Program ends in 2021
- Last year to begin is 2016 for maximum incentive



Payment Schedule

- Medi-Cal

- January 3, 2012 - Attestation period begins
- February 2012 - Incentive payments begin
- Year 1 – may receive payment if EHR is adopted, implemented or upgraded (A/I/U)
- Years 2-6 – must meet MU criteria



Payment Schedule: Medi-Cal

Year Paid	MU of EHR starting in year:					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2011	\$21,250					
2012	\$8,500	\$21,250				
2013	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250			
2014	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250		
2015	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250	
2016	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250
2017		\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
2018			\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
2019				\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
2020					\$8,500	\$8,500
2021						\$8,500
Total	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750



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Payment Schedule

- Medicare

- Total incentive payment - \$44,000 over five years
- Declining payments over five years depending on first year of MU
- Program ends in 2016
- Last year to begin is 2012 for maximum incentive payment
- Years 1-5 – must meet MU criteria

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Payment Schedule

- Medicare

- April 2011 – Attestation period begins
- May 2011 – Incentive payments begin
- Must claim at least \$24K to receive the full first year payment of \$18K
- Incentive payment cannot exceed 75% of claim amount
- Beginning in 2015, Medicare fee reductions will take effect if EP does not meet MU criteria



Payment Schedule: Medicare

Year Paid	MU of EHR starting in year:			
	2011	2012	2013	2014
2011	\$18,000			
2012	\$12,000	\$18,000		
2013	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$15,000	
2014	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
2015	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
2016		\$2,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Total	\$44,000	\$44,000	\$39,000	\$24,000



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Payment Schedule: Medicare

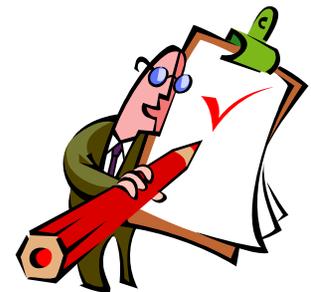
Failure To Demonstrate MU by Year:			
2015	2016	2017	2018
Penalty Applied:			
-1%	-2%	-3%	-4%*

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Vendor Certification

- EHR must be certified through an ONC certified testing body. ONC certifies based on the Stage 1 criteria
- Stage 2 and Stage 3 will require recertification
- If the vendor modifies the certified software, it may require retesting and recertification
- Certification only applies to the specific Product and Version listed



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Next Steps



- ✓ Review website links and material
- ✓ Contact a Regional Extension Center (REC) – HITEC-LA or COREC (Orange County)
- ✓ Assess your readiness to meet meaningful use
- ✓ Talk to your vendor about MU and the timeline for certification
- ✓ Develop a ROI and rollout strategy for MU
- ✓ Develop a project plan and Implement a certified EHR
- ✓ Validate and monitor MU measurements on an on-going basis

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USEFUL LINKS

- CMS Meaningful Use Website:

<http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/>

- CMS EHR Incentive Program ListServ:

http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/65_CMS_EHR_Listserv.asp

- CMS Meaningful Use Measures:

<http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/Downloads/EP-MU-TOC.pdf>

- Medi-Cal Incentive Program:

<http://www.medi-cal.ehr.ca.gov/>



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USEFUL LINKS

- HITEC-LA:
<http://www.hitecla.org/>
- COREC (Orange County):
<http://www.caloptima.org/>
- Certified EHR Software:
<http://onc-chpl.force.com/ehrcert>



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