



EHR Incentive Programs

A program of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Idaho Medicaid EHR Incentive Program 2015 Meaningful Use Final Modification Rule Informational Paper

Background

CMS recently released a final rule that specifies criteria that EPs, EHs, and CAHs must meet in order to participate in the Medicare and/or Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. The final rule provisions encompass 2015 through 2017 (Modified Stage 2) as well as Stage 3 in 2018 and beyond. The final rule went into effect on December 15, 2015.

The text of the final rule is available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/10/16/2015-25595/medicare-and-medicare-programs-electronic-health-record-incentive-program-stage-3-and-modifications>

Modification Rule Effects

Starting in 2015, the EHR reporting period for *all providers* will be any continuous 90-day period, and will be aligned with the CY. The final rule has also removed reporting requirements on measures that have become redundant, duplicative, or topped out from the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. Providers must report on:

- 10 objectives for EPs, including one consolidated public health reporting objective with measure options.
- 9 objectives for EHs and CAHs, including one consolidated public health reporting objective with measure options.

CQM reporting for both EPs and EH/CAHs remains as previously finalized and we will continue to encourage the electronic submission of CQM data to promote the electronic capture, calculation, and reporting of key clinical data through the use of CEHRT.

We are currently awaiting approval from CMS of our new system so we can implement the changes to accommodate the 2015 modification rule within IIMS. We will continue to accept attestations for AIU and the 'old' MU throughout this process.

Payment Adjustments & Attestation Deadlines

In CY 2015, the EHR reporting period for a payment adjustment year for EPs who have not successfully demonstrated meaningful use in a prior year (new participants) is any continuous 90-day period in CY 2015. New participants who successfully demonstrate MU for this period and satisfy all other program requirements will avoid the payment adjustments in CYs 2016 and 2017 if the EP successfully attests by March 31, 2016. We are submitting a request to extend the tail period out to May 31, 2016. Notice of this extension approval will be posted to the Idaho EHR website and IIMS.

CEHRT Requirements

In the EHR Incentive Programs for 2015-2017, there are no changes to the certification requirements for MU objectives and measures using 2014 Edition CEHRT. Providers may continue to use technology certified to the 2014 Edition until EHR technology certified to the 2015 Edition is required with an EHR reporting period beginning in 2018.