



## Overview of the CMS EHR Incentive Program

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus Bill) had appropriated \$19.2 billion to encourage health care organizations like yours to adopt and effectively utilize Electronic Health Records (EHR) in a meaningful way. By implementing and meaningfully using an EHR system, providers will reap benefits beyond financial incentives—such as reduction in errors, availability of records and data, reminders and alerts, clinical decision support, and e-prescribing/refill automation.

**The Medicare EHR Incentive Program** will provide incentive payments to eligible professionals that demonstrate Meaningful Use of certified EHR technology.

- Participation can begin as early as 2011.
- Eligible professionals can receive up to **\$44,000** over five years under the Medicare EHR Incentive Program. There's an additional incentive for eligible professionals who provide services in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HSPA).
- To get the maximum incentive payment, Medicare eligible professionals must begin participation by 2012.

**The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program** will provide incentive payments to eligible professionals as they adopt, implement, upgrade or demonstrate Meaningful Use of certified EHR technology in their first year of participation and demonstrate Meaningful Use for up to five remaining participation years.

- The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program is voluntarily offered by individual states and territories and may begin as early as 2011, depending on the state.
- Eligible professionals can receive up to **\$63,750** over the six years that they choose to participate in the program.

## Meeting Electronic Health Record (EHR) Requirements

**Medicare:** EHR technology must be tested and certified by an Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) Authorized Testing and Certification Body (ATCB) in order for a provider to qualify for EHR incentive payments. Under the Medicare program, you must attest that you have demonstrated Meaningful Use of certified EHR technology during the EHR reporting period. For the first year of payment, the EHR reporting period is 90 consecutive days within the calendar year for eligible professionals.

**Medicaid:** With regard to the Medicaid EHR Incentive program, for the first year of payment, eligible professionals and hospitals must have adopted, implemented, upgraded certified EHR technology before they can receive an EHR incentive payment from the state. As an alternative to demonstrating that they have adopted, implemented or upgraded certified EHR technology, for the first year of payment, the eligible professional or hospital may demonstrate that they are meaningful users of certified EHR technology for the 90-day EHR reporting period.

# Meaningful Use Criteria

## Defining Meaningful Use

Meaningful Use includes both a core set and a menu set of objectives that are specific to eligible professionals. In Stage 1 (2011 and 2012), eligible professionals have a total of 25 Meaningful Use objectives. To qualify for an incentive payment, 20 of these 25 objectives must be met. There are 15 required core objectives. The remaining 5 objectives may be chosen from the list of 10 menu set objectives.

## Meaningful Use Stage One Criteria

This table shows the Meaningful Use Stage 1 criteria. The items indicated with an <sup>M</sup> are part of the menu set.

Objective	Measurement
Use Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE) for prescriptions (any licensed professional)	30% of unique patients have one or more scripts ordered electronically
Implement drug-formulary checks <sup>M</sup>	Enabled Y/N
Implement drug to drug and drug allergy interaction checks	Enabled Y/N
Generate and transmit permissible prescriptions electronically (eRx of non-controlled substances)	40% of all permissible prescriptions are transmitted electronically
Maintain active medication list	More than 80% of all unique patients have at least one entry (including "none")
Maintain active medication allergy list	More than 80% of all unique patients have at least one entry (including "none")
Perform Medication Reconciliation when a patient comes from another care setting or provider <sup>M</sup>	More than 50% of transitions in which the patient is transitioned into the care of the eligible professional
Maintain an up-to-date problem list of current and active diagnoses	More than 80% of all unique patients have at least one entry (including "none")
Incorporate clinical lab-test results into EHR as structured data <sup>M</sup>	More than 40% of all clinical lab tests results
Record smoking status for patients 13 years old or older	More than 50% of all unique patients age 13 and over
Record demographics	More than 50% of all unique patients
Record and chart changes in vital signs: height, weight, blood pressure Calculate and display: BMI Plot and display growth charts for children 2-20 years, including BMI	More than 50% of all unique patients age two and over
Implement one clinical decision support rule: Clinical Decision Support	Enabled Y/N
Send reminders to patients per patient preference for preventive/ follow up care <sup>M</sup>	More than 20% of all unique patients 65 years or older or five years old or younger
Provide patients with an electronic copy of their health information upon request	More than 50% of all patients, who request an electronic copy of their health information are provided it within three business days
Provide patients with timely electronic access to their health information (including lab results, problem list, medication list, allergies) within 96 hours of the information being available to the eligible professional <sup>M</sup>	More than 10% of all unique patients



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Objective	Measurement
Provide clinical summaries for patients for each office visit	More than 50% of all office visits within three business days
Use certified EHR technology to identify patient-specific education resources and provide those resources to the patient if appropriate <sup>M</sup>	More than 10% of all unique patients are provided patient-specific education resources
Capability to exchange key clinical information among providers of care and patient authorized entities electronically	Performed at least one test
Provide summary of care record for each transition of care or referral <sup>M</sup>	Provide a summary of care record for more than 50% of transitions of care and referrals
Generate lists of patients by specific conditions to use for quality improvement, reduction of disparities, and outreach <sup>M</sup>	Generate at least one report listing patients with a specific condition
Report clinical quality measures to CMS	Report as required
Capability to submit electronic data to immunization registries and actual submission where required and accepted <sup>M</sup> *	Performed at least one test
Capability to provide electronic syndromic surveillance data to public health agencies and actual transmission according to applicable law and practice <sup>M</sup> *	Performed at least one test
Protect electronic health information created or maintained by the certified EHR technology through the implementation of appropriate technical capabilities	Conduct or review a security risk analysis and implement security updates as necessary, and correct identified security deficiencies

\*At least one public health objective must be selected



### Getting Started

1. Visit [www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms](http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms) to:
  - a. Confirm your eligibility
  - b. Understand the requirements
2. Select an ONC-ATCB Certified EHR solution.
3. Apply for the Incentive program
  - **Medicare:** Providers choosing to apply for the Medicare EHR Incentive program can do so beginning January 3, 2011 at [www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms](http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms)
  - **Medicaid:** Providers choosing to apply for the Medicaid EHR Incentive program should look towards their state for information about applying. Each state has the option of offering and administering the program.

For more information about how Care360 EHR from Quest Diagnostics will help you qualify, please visit [www.Care360EHR.com](http://www.Care360EHR.com)

## Care360™ EHR

As a certified ONC-ATCB 2011/2012 Complete EHR\*, Care360 will help you qualify for a variety of incentives including the CMS incentive for Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records (EHR).

\*This Complete EHR is 2011/2012 compliant and has been certified by, the Certification Commission for Health Information Technology (CCHIT®), an ONC-ATCB, in accordance with the applicable certification criteria adopted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. This certification does not represent an endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or guarantee the receipt of incentive payments. Care360 EHR was certified on December 15, 2010 for version 2010.2. Certification number CC-1112-936980-1.



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