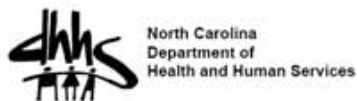


NC Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program



EHR Incentive Program Overview

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EHR Incentive Program Basics

- Created by federal government as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) Act
- Goal of the program is to encourage **eligible professionals (EPs), eligible hospitals (EHs) and critical access hospitals (CAHs)** to adopt, implement, or upgrade to a certified EHR technology, and then to demonstrate meaningful use of that technology

Medicare vs. Medicaid

MEDICARE

- Maximum incentive **\$44,000** over 5 years
- Incentives decrease if started after 2012
- Must begin by 2014 to receive payments
- Last payment year is 2016
- Must demonstrate Meaningful Use in Year 1
- Payment reductions begin in 2015 for providers that do not demonstrate Meaningful Use

MEDICAID

- Maximum incentive **\$63,750** over 6 years
- Incentives are same regardless of start year
- Must begin by 2016 to receive payments
- Payments available through 2021
- Adopt, Implement or Upgrade in Year 1
- No Medicaid payment reductions

Timeline

- EPs may participate in 6 of 10 years: 2011-2021
 - Participation years do not have to be consecutive.
- Year One - an EP will adopt, implement, or upgrade a certified EHR technology.
- Year Two - Meaningful use of certified EHR technology. Providers attest to a 90-day period in the current calendar year.
- Year Three and beyond - EPs will attest to meaningful use for the entire year.
- We are currently in Stage 1 of Meaningful Use. Stage 2 Meaningful Use requirements will go into effect in 2014 and include an expansion of reporting measures, such as increased reporting time, but may also include additional measures or tightening of measures. Stage 2 is still under development.

2011 -
Program
begins

2011

2016 - Last year to begin
program and receive full
incentive payments

2016

2021 -
Program
ends

2021

Eligibility

Eligibility Requirements for Professionals

- Incentive payments for EPs are based on individual practitioners.
- If you are part of a practice, each EP may qualify for an incentive payment if each EP successfully adopts, implements, or upgrades to a certified EHR technology in Payment Year 1 and later demonstrates meaningful use.
- Each EP is eligible for only one incentive payment per payment year, regardless of how many practices or locations at which he or she provide services.
- **Hospital-based professionals are not eligible for incentive payments.** A professional is considered hospital-based if 90% or more of his or her services are performed in a hospital inpatient (Place of Service Code 21) or emergency room (Place of Service Code 23) setting.

Eligibility

- Eligible professionals under the NC Medicaid EHR Incentive Program include:
 - Physicians (primarily doctors of medicine and doctors of osteopathy)
 - Nurse practitioners
 - Certified nurse midwives
 - Dentists
 - Physician assistants who furnish services in a Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Clinic that is **led** by a physician assistant

Eligibility

- To qualify for an incentive payment under the NC Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, an eligible professional must meet **one** of the following criteria:
 - Have a minimum 30% Medicaid patient volume*
 - Have a minimum 20% Medicaid patient volume, and is a pediatrician*
 - Practice predominantly in a Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Center and have a minimum 30% patient volume attributable to needy individuals**
- * NC Health Choice patients do not count toward the Medicaid patient volume criteria
- ** Needy individuals include NC Health Choice patients, patients who pay on a sliding scale based on income, and services provided at no cost

Patient Volume

- To calculate patient volume for EPs, the formula is:

Numerator = Encounters covered in part
or whole by Medicaid

Denominator = Total encounters in a continuous
90-day period from the previous year

- This formula was established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Final Rule governing the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

Hospital Calculation

- Hospital payments are calculated by determining total discharges and the annual growth rate
- Formula starts with a base payment of \$2 million per year for 4 years and adds \$200 for each projected discharge between 1,150 and 23,000
- Medicaid's share is calculated utilizing total Medicaid inpatient bed days and other factors
- The EHR Incentive Payment is calculated, then divided into three annual payments of 50% in Y1, 40% in Y2 and 10% in Y3

Path to Payment

- **Eligibility**. Determine eligibility for the program using the eligibility wizard.
- **CMS Registration**. Register with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- **A/I/U**. Adopt, implement, or upgrade to a certified EHR system. The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) maintains a comprehensive listing of all certified technologies. New vendors and products are certified and added to the list as they become available.
- **Confirmation**. NC Medicaid will verify information provided from CMS and send a welcome email to providers with an invitation to begin the attestation.
- **Attestation**. Once a provider receives a welcome email inviting them to begin the attestation process with the NC Medicaid Incentive Payment System (NC-MIPS), the provider can log onto the NC-MIPS portal, and complete the attestation process.

Path to Payment

- **Verification.** Once attestations are completed, they are verified by NC Medicaid. If any problems are found, providers are notified with instructions on how to address any issue. The verification process consists of multiple internal checks at NC Medicaid and can take as long as 4-10 weeks. This estimate is based on a fully implemented and operational system. There may be delays as NC Medicaid continues to operationalize the system. **Do not make financial commitments based upon this timeline. It may take longer than expected to receive incentive payments.**
- **Notification.** Providers will be notified once the verification process has been completed along with when to expect an incentive payment. Payments are made according to the established Medicaid payment schedule.
- **Future Payments.** EPs are eligible for 5 additional incentive payments based upon the meaningful use of their certified EHR technology (as defined by CMS). Meaningful use attestation begins in payment year two and will be based upon a 90-day reporting period. Additional years of meaningful use will have a reporting period of 365 days. The incentive program runs through 2021 and payment years do not have to be consecutive.

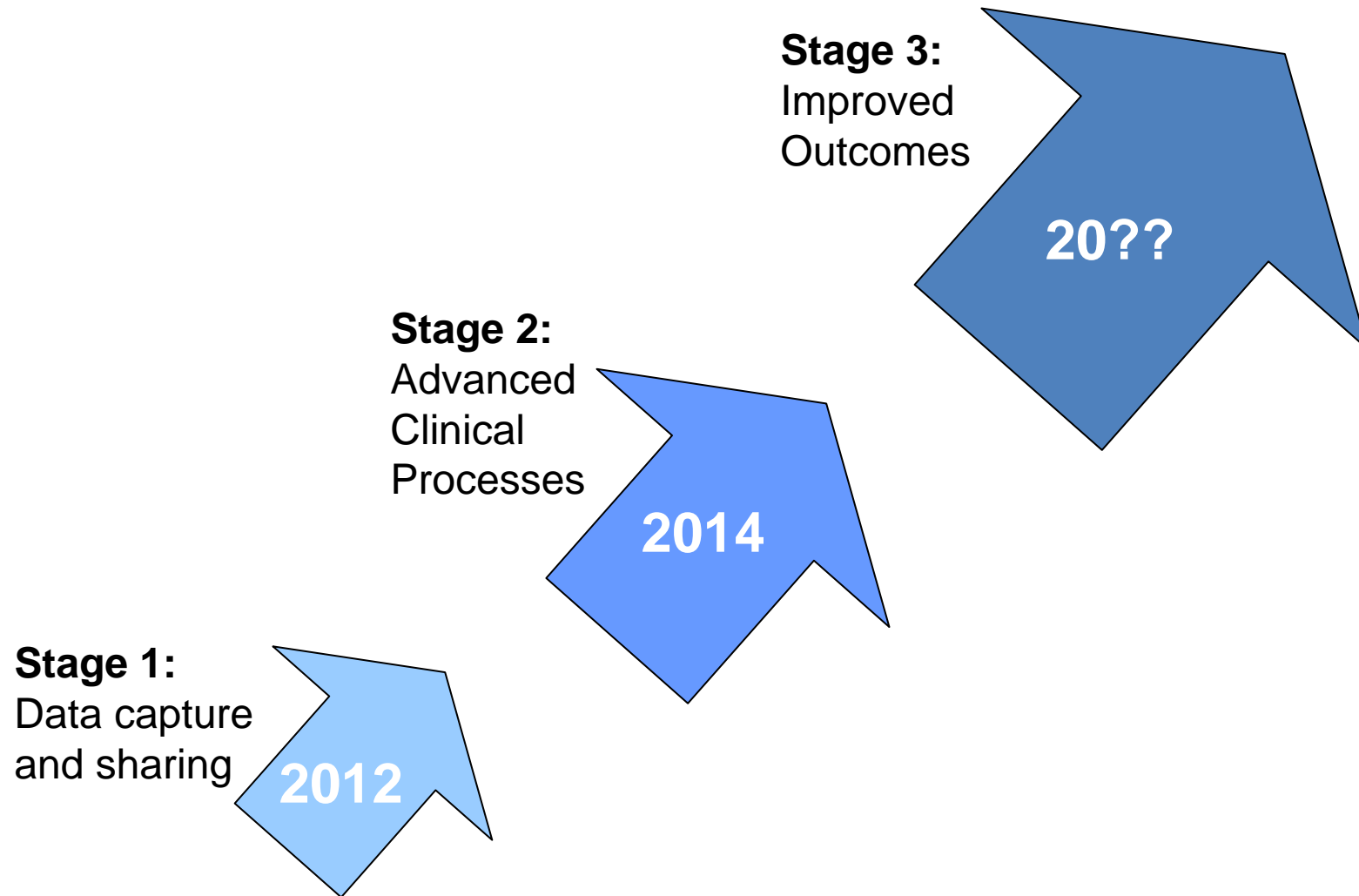
What is Meaningful Use?

- Meaningful Use (MU) is using certified EHR technology to:
 - Improve quality, safety, efficiency, and reduce health disparities
 - Engage patients and families in their health care
 - Improve Care coordination
 - Improve population and public health
 - All the while maintaining privacy and security
- Meaningful Use is mandated by law to receive incentives

What is Meaningful Use?

- The Recovery Act specifies the following 3 components of Meaningful Use:
 1. Use of certified EHR in a meaningful manner (e.g., e-prescribing)
 2. Use of certified EHR for electronic exchange of health information to improve quality of health care
 3. Use of certified EHR to submit Clinical Quality Measures (CQM)

Conceptual Approach to MU



MU Stage 1 Objectives and Measures Reporting

- Eligible Professionals must complete:
 - 15 core objectives
 - 5 objectives out of 10 from menu set
 - 6 total Clinical Quality Measures
(3 core or alternate core, and 3 out of 38 from additional set)

Meaningful Use Measures

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

Additional Resources

NC Medicaid EHR Incentive Program website:

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/provider/ehr.htm>

CMS Registration website:

http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/20_RegistrationalAttestation.asp

NC-MIPS Attestation Portal:

<https://ncmips.nctracks.nc.gov/>

EP Attestation guide:

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/ehr/EPAttestationGuide.pdf>

Contact Us

- For technical assistance or to inquire about the status of your payment, contact:
 - 1-866-844-1113
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