

Medicare Incentive Programs

Boost your bottom line!



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Are you tired of the phrase “tough economic times?” Have you heard your share of bad news? Are you feeling the financial squeeze? If so, you are not alone. Providers and practices throughout our state and country are working hard to maintain a positive bottom line. However, there is good news. In an effort to boost quality of care and encourage use of electronic health records, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has made three Medicare Incentive Programs available to you. The requirements for these incentives are less stringent than ever before and can significantly boost your bottom line. They include:

\$ PQRI 2% Incentive

The Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) is available to each eligible professional (provider) in your practice who reports certain quality measures on at least 30 unique Medicare or Medicare Railroad patients. The incentive is equal to 2% incentive of all allowed Medicare charges for either a six-month or twelve-month reporting period for 2010. Group or Individual measures are available. Claims-based reporting of measures groups makes reporting very easy. (However in order to receive the entire 2010 calendar year incentive you must act very quickly).

\$ E-prescribe 2% Incentive

With a qualified electronic prescribing software (EHR or stand-alone) and reporting of as few as 25 unique patients, each eligible provider in your practice can receive an additional incentive equal to 2% of all Medicare allowed charges for the entire 2010 reporting year.

\$ EHR Up to \$44,000

Electronic Health Records Incentives will be available to eligible physicians and non-physician providers by 2011. Only 90-days of meaningful use of a qualified system are required within the 2011 calendar year to qualify. Incentive payments equal 75% of Medicare allowable charges for the year subject to the following maximum payments:

Calendar Year	First CY in which the EP Receives an Incentive Payment				2015 and subsequent years
	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	\$0
2016		\$2,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$44,000	\$44,000	\$39,000	\$24,000	\$0

Electronic Health Records (including Electronic prescribing) and quality reporting will be required as early as 2015 so take advantage of the incentives while they are available. Research PQRI, E-Prescribe and EHR so that you can implement the programs and receive the incentives as soon as possible.

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If you would like additional information about these incentives and how you can qualify, contact Belinda Holmes at Kerkering, Barberio & Co. at (941) 953-7451 x1245.