

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

UPDATE

Presentation to
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
BOARD MEETING
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DCH Mission

ACCESS



Access
to affordable,
quality health
care in our
communities

RESPONSIBLE



Responsible
health planning
and use of
health care
resources

HEALTHY



Healthy
behaviors and
improved
health
outcomes

DCH Initiatives FY 2011

FY 2011

**Continuity of Operations
Preparedness**

Customer Service

Emergency Preparedness

Financial & Program Integrity

Health Care Consumerism

Health Improvement

Health Care Transformation

Public Health

Workforce Development

MEDICAID INCENTIVES PROGRAM

- EHR Incentive Programs were established by law
 - American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009
 - Programs for hospitals and eligible professionals
 - Must use certified EHR technology AND demonstrate adoption, implementation, upgrading or meaningful use
 - Programs differ between Medicare and Medicaid
 - Medicare incentive program is federally run by CMS
 - Medicaid incentive program is run by States



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Medicaid Eligible Professionals include:

- Physicians
- Nurse practitioners
- Certified nurse-midwives
- Dentists
- Physicians assistants working in a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or rural health clinic (RHC) that is so led by a physicians assistant
- EPs may not be hospital-based

ELIGIBLE PROFESSIONALS

Medicaid Eligible Professionals must also meet one of the three patient volume thresholds:

- Have a minimum of 30% Medicaid patient volume
- Pediatricians ONLY: Have a minimum of 20% Medicaid patient volume
- Working in FQHC or RHC ONLY: Have a minimum of 30% patient volume attributed to needy individuals
- CHIP, sliding scale, free care only count towards thresholds if working in RHC or FQHC



HOW MUCH ARE THE INCENTIVES?

Medicaid Incentive Payments Overview

- Maximum incentives are \$63,750 over 6 years
- Incentives are same regardless of start year
- The first year payment is \$21,250
- Must begin by 2016 to receive incentive payments
- Incentives available through 2021
- Only 1 incentive payment per year

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEANINGFUL USE

Meaningful Use 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 mandated in law to receive incentives



MEANINGFUL USE REQUIREMENTS

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 technology for electronic exchange of health information to improve quality of health care

3. Use of certified EHR technology to submit clinical quality measures (CQM) and other such measures selected by the Secretary



ADOPT, IMPLEMENT OR UPGRADE

- MEDICAID –only for first participation year

Adopted – Acquired and Installed (Evidence of installation)

Implemented – Commenced Utilization of (Staff training, data entry of patient demographic information into EHR)

Upgraded –Expanded (Upgraded to certified EHR technology or added new functionality to meet the definition of certified EHR technology)

- Must be certified EHR technology capable of meeting meaningful use

MEANINGFUL USE OVERVIEW

Stage 1:

- Reporting period is 90 days for first year and 1 year subsequently
- Reporting through attestation
- Objectives and Clinical Quality Measures

STATE OPTIONS – PUBLIC HEALTH

States can seek CMS prior approval to require 4 MU objectives be core for their Medicaid providers:

- Generate lists of patients by specific conditions for quality improvement, reduction of disparities, research, or outreach (can specify particular conditions)
- Reporting to immunization registries, reportable lab results, and syndromic surveillance (can specify for their providers how to test the data submission and to which specific destination)



HOW TO PARTICIPATE

All providers must:

- Register via the EHR Incentive Program website
- Be enrolled in Medicare FFS, MA, or Medicaid (FFS or managed care)
- Have a National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Use certified EHR technology
- Medicaid providers may adopt, implement, or upgrade in their first year
- All Medicare providers and Medicaid eligible hospitals must be enrolled in PECOS

www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms



WHAT YOU NEED TO PARTICIPATE

- Registration: Medicaid Specific Details
- State interface with to the EHR Incentive Program registration website
- Provide and/or attest to additional information in order to make accurate and timely payments, such as:
 - Patient Volume
 - Licensure
 - A/I/U or Meaningful Use
 - Certified EHR Technology



REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- Name of the eligible professional
- National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Business address and business phone
- Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) to which the provider would like their incentive payment made
- State selection for Medicaid providers



CERTIFIED EHR TECHNOLOGY

- Required in order to achieve meaningful use
- Standards and certification criteria announced on July 13, 2010. See <http://healthit.hhs.gov/standardsandcertification> for more information
- ONC in process of authorizing additional “testing and certification bodies” for temporary certification program

<http://healthit.hhs.gov/certification> for more information

EmailONC.Certification@hhs.gov with questions



TIMELINE OF INCENTIVES PROGRAM

- Fall 2011 – Certified EHR technology will be available and listed on website
- January 2011 – Registration for the EHR Incentive Programs begins
- May 2011 – Medicare EHR incentive payments begin
- 3d Quarter 2011 – Georgia Medicaid begins payments

TIMELINE

- February 29, 2012 –Last day for EPs to register and attest to receive an incentive payment for CY 2011
- 2015 – Medicare payment adjustments begin for EPs and eligible hospitals that are not meaningful users of EHR technology (No adjustments for Medicaid)
- 2016 - Last year to begin participation in Medicaid EHR Incentive Program
- 2021 – Last year to receive Medicaid EHR incentive payment



RESOURCES

- Georgia Medicaid Incentives Program:

<http://dch.ga.gov/ehr>

- Get information, tip sheets and more at CMS' official website for the EHR incentive programs:

www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms

- Learn about certification and certified EHRs, as well as other ONC programs designed to support providers as they make the transition:

<http://healthit.hhs.gov>



ONC SUPPORT OF MEANINGFUL USE

Regional Extension Center Program:

- ONC has provided funding for 70 regional extension centers that will help providers with EHR vendor selection and support and workflow redesign. Go to http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt/community/healthit_hhs_gov_rec_program/1495

State Health Information Exchange Program:

- Funding and technical assistance to states to support providers in achieving health information exchange requirements

Nationwide Health Information Network Activities:

- Expanded definitions, specifications and sample implementations to support exchange to achieve meaningful use

Beacon Communities Program

- Demonstration communities involving clinicians, hospitals and consumers who are showing how EHRs can achieve breakthrough improvements in care

Workforce Training Programs

- Several distinct programs that are supporting the education of up to 45,000 new health IT workers to support implementation

ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS

Medicaid Eligible Hospitals

- Must submit attestations to the State:
 - Of certified EHR technology, including certification number
 - Information used to calculate incentive payments (e.g., patient volume, etc.)
- One CCN = one hospital
 - One incentive per CCN



MEDICAID ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS

Medicaid incentives for Eligible Hospitals available to:

- Acute Care Hospitals
- Critical Access Hospitals
- Children's Hospitals

ELIGIBLE HOSPITAL CALCULATIONS

- Similar to Medicare hospital methodology
- No annual payment may exceed 50% of the total calculation; no 2-year payment may exceed 90%
- Hospitals cannot start payments after 2016 and payment years must be consecutive after 2016
- States must use auditable data sources in calculating hospital incentives
- For Medicaid payment calculation formula and scenario examples, visit the CMS website
<http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/>



ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS – FIRST YEAR

- Eligible Medicaid Hospitals
 - May qualify through Attestation as having “adopted,” “implemented” or “upgraded” certified electronic health record technology **or** demonstrated “meaningful use” (Stage 1 criteria)
- Medicaid Patient Volume
 - Calculated in a 90-day period selected by hospital
- Certified EHR Technology
- Meaningful Use
 - Successive participation years criteria become more stringent
- Participation Years
 - Criteria expands each year



HOW MUCH ARE INCENTIVES FOR EHS

- \$2M Base amount + per discharge amount (based on Medicare/Medicaid share)
- Medicaid calculation derives a total amount States may pay eligible hospitals
- Hospitals meeting Medicare Meaningful Use requirements may be deemed eligible for Medicaid payments



ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS – NEXT STEPS

- **Medicaid Eligible Hospitals**
 - Should begin evaluating eligibility requirements (i.e., meet patient volume thresholds, etc.) and calculations of potential incentive payments.
- **For more information on payment calculations**
 - Visit the CMS website at:
<http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms>
- **Medicaid Eligible Hospitals**
 - Should send their calculations to DCH in advance to resolve potential issues. E-mail rcarr@dch.ga.gov

GEORGIA REGIONAL EXTENSION CENTER

Mission

- Use a community-oriented approach to assist Georgia's providers with the selection, successful implementation, and meaningful use of certified Electronic Health Record (EHR) systems to improve clinical outcomes and quality of care provided to their patients.

Vision

- Work collaboratively with valued partners to assure the adoption of certified EHR technology to improve the quality of health for the community while eliminating the disparate gap of healthcare throughout Georgia.



GA HITREC

- **The National Center for Primary Care (NCPC)**
 - Located at the Morehouse School of Medicine (Atlanta)
 - Awarded a federal grant to serve as the Georgia Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center (GA-HITREC)
 - GA-HITREC serves as one of 60 centers throughout the United States
- **GA-HITREC**
 - Supports healthcare providers in becoming meaningful users of EHRs
 - Ensures eligible professionals (EPs) in Primary Care, with or without existing EHRs, get the technical help they need
 - Serves these eligible professionals: physicians (MD and DO), nurse practitioners, and physician assistants in family practice, obstetrics, internal medicine, and pediatrics

