

Meaningful Use and PQRS Deadlines and Webinars

Important quality reporting deadlines are approaching for 2016 meaningful use and Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS).

Meaningful Use

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently shortened the meaningful use reporting period for all eligible professionals (EPs) to any continuous 90-day period between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2016. This is a decrease from the previous rule requiring a full year of reporting. CMS included this recommendation in the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment System [final rule](#).

For the 2016 Electronic Health Record (EHR) reporting period, all returning participants must attest by Feb. 28, 2017. New participants who successfully demonstrate meaningful use for 2016 and satisfy all other program requirements will avoid the payment adjustment in calendar year (CY) 2017 and CY 2018 if the EP successfully attests by Oct. 1, 2016, and will avoid the payment adjustment in CY 2018 if the EP successfully attests by Feb. 28, 2017.

For more details on meaningful use requirements, check out the [CMS 2016 Tipsheet for EHR Incentive Programs](#).

Physician Quality Reporting System

The Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) is a quality reporting program that encourages individual eligible professionals (EPs) and group practices to report information on the quality of care to Medicare. Those who report satisfactorily for the 2016 program year will avoid the 2018 PQRS negative payment adjustment. Measures must be reported for the whole calendar year of 2016 and the reporting deadline for most reporting methods is Feb. 24–28, 2017.

For a detailed walk through, you can review the [PQRS Toolkit](#) provided by the TMF Quality Innovation Network Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO).

Upcoming Events

The TMF Quality Innovation Network hosts educational events for the benefit of physicians, hospitals and other health care professionals. You can learn more about upcoming events by visiting www.TMFQIN.org and clicking on the Events tab. Recorded events are also available, including “[An Overview of the Quality Payment Program for 2017](#),” which was presented by David Nilasena, MD.

PQRS and Meaningful Use Open Forum

Join this TMF Quality Innovation Network webinar to learn about upcoming changes related to meaningful use and PQRS. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and interact with peers as well as TMF Quality Innovation Network consultants. This open forum will take place **Tuesday, Jan. 17, 12:30–1:30 p.m. CT**. [Register today](#).

Improving EMR Use for the Quality Payment Program

Join this TMF Quality Innovation Network webinar to hear from Richard C. Howe, PhD, FHIMSS, as he reviews a case study and applies it to how you can enhance the use of your electronic medical records (EMR) with reporting for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System. Howe will focus on understanding physician practice issues related to measuring, reporting and using standard quality metrics. This webinar will take place **Thursday, Jan. 19, noon–1 p.m. CT**. [Register today](#).