

## PROGRAM UPDATE



**November 19, 2014**

*The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Department) continues to accept attestations for the Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. In Program Year 2012, more than **\$63 million** in incentive payments were made to eligible health care professionals and hospitals for the adoption, implementation or upgrade (AIU) and Meaningful Use (MU) of certified EHR technology and payments for Program Year 2013 total more than **\$47 million** while Program Year 2014 payments total more than **\$2.7 million**.*

### ***CO R&A Open for Eligible Hospital 2014 Attestations; Deadline Extended***

The [CO R&A](#) is now open for all 2014 Eligible Hospital (EH) attestations for either 2014 Stage 1 or Stage 2. To make sure that all EHs have an adequate amount of time to complete their attestations, the Department has extended the EH attestation deadline to February 28, 2014.

As a reminder, please note that all dually eligible hospitals must attest to Medicare before they attest to Medicaid and must wait at least 24-48 before submitting an attestation in the CO R&A. Also, make sure that the 90-day EHR reporting period begins at the start of a quarter (January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1) and runs 90 days, not 89 or 91. It is important to note that an EH may choose to report on a full year if they choose, but only a 90-day EHR reporting period is required for 2014.

### ***2014 Flexibility Rule Update for the CO R&A***

Colorado is currently working with the CO R&A software vendor on the necessary upgrades allowing for 2013 Stage 1 attestations as allowed by the 2014 Flexibility Rule effective October 1, 2014. Due to this necessary upgrade and the complexity of allowing both 2013 and 2014 Stage 1 attestations, the CO R&A will not be accepting EP and EH 2013 Stage 1 attestations until January 2015. When an exact date is announced or if the date moves, we will send out an Important Announcement email.

In the meantime, the Department has shared examples of supporting documentation for attesting to one of the flexibility options. In addition to the required documents outlined in the CO R&A, all EPs and EHs attesting to 2013 Stage 1 objectives and measures will be required to submit one of the following:

- Vendor letter confirming software development delays,
- Vendor letter or screen shot from vendor website confirming there are missing or delayed software updates, or
- Date of software installation and upgrade to determine if time available did not allow for proper training and testing

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### *Updated Anticipated Timeline – Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program*

Event	Status/Expected Date
CO R&A System begins accepting Medicaid & Medicare Meaningful Use attestations	Now Open!
CO R&A System opens for EHs to attest to Meaningful Use for FFY 2013	Program Year is now closed
CO R&A System opens for EPs to attest to Meaningful Use for calendar year 2013	Program Year is now closed
First incentive payments issued to EPs who successfully attested to Medicaid Stage 1 Meaningful Use	Paid!
First incentive payments issues to EHs who successfully attested to Medicaid Stage 1 Meaningful Use	Paid!
CO R&A System opens for EHs to attest to 2014 Stage 1 and Stage 2 Meaningful Use for FFY 2014	Now Open!
CO R&A System opens for EPs to attest to 2014 Stage 1 for program year 2014	Now Open!
CO R&A System opens for EPs and EHs to attest to 2013 Stage 1 Objectives for the 2014 Flexibility Rule	Early 2015

### *Medicaid Program Point of Contact and Partnerships*

The Department has partnered with CORHIO to provide program coordination and assist with provider communications and outreach regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator will be the central point of contact for EPs, EHs, partners and other interested parties on requirements, processes and questions regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator, Tracy McDonald, can be reached at [MedicaidEHR@corhio.org](mailto:MedicaidEHR@corhio.org) or 720.285.3232.

Xerox (formerly Affiliated Computer Services) has been contracted by the Department to manage the Provider Outreach Page and to provide the Colorado R&A System, including the web portal through which eligible providers can register and attest to receive the EHR incentive payments.