

PROGRAM UPDATE



February 17, 2016

As previously reported in this newsletter, CMS released the Final Rule for Meaningful Use 2015-2017 and Stage 3 on October 6. The rule requires that all providers who are attesting to Meaningful Use meet the modified Stage 2 objectives with alternate exclusions for providers scheduled to attest to Stage 1 in 2015.

For more information, please refer to the CMS EHR Incentive Programs [website](#) for tipsheets for Eligible Professionals and Hospitals/CAHs, 2015 Specification Sheets, alternate exclusion tipsheets for providers scheduled to attest to Stage 1 in 2015 and more. CORHIO recently published a webinar reviewing the changes to the program: [Meaningful Use in 2015 and Beyond: Changes to Stage 2](#).

Colorado Medicaid Registration and Attestation Site

The modifications to the program necessitate system updates to the Colorado Registration & Attestation (R&A) site. Due to the number of changes that need to be made, the site is currently closed for all registrations, AIU and attestations.

The R&A is currently scheduled to open **Spring 2016** for EPs and **Fall 2016** for EHs for the 2015 program year. Once the site officially opens, providers will have 60 days to attest.

Additionally, due to the program changes, the 2015 program year eligibility workbooks required updating. The 2015 program year workbooks will be published on the CORHIO website as soon as they are available.

Please refer to the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program newsletter or the CORHIO website <http://www.corhio.org/expertise/meaningful-use> for up-to-date information.

Are you dually eligible? (Meaningful Use Program Year 2015 only)

Are you an EP or Dentist that sees both Medicare and Medicaid patients and didn't meet Medicaid patient volume requirements for program year 2015?

If you are an EP or Dentist who sees both Medicare and CO Medicaid patients, you must demonstrate Meaningful Use in either the Medicare EHR Incentive Program or the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program to avoid payment adjustments on Medicare charges. **EPs or Dentists that are only eligible to participate in the Medicaid incentive program are not subject to these payment adjustments.** Since many states' systems will not be open before the Medicare attestation deadline, dually eligible providers that do not meet the patient volume requirements, 30% for providers and 20% for pediatricians will have the option, for program year 2015 only, to use an alternate attestation method through the [CMS Attestation Site](#) by the March 11th deadline to avoid Medicare payment adjustments. There is no special alternate attestation tab, use the current attestation tab.

More Information:

PROGRAM UPDATE



- If a Medicaid provider receives an incentive payment from the state the same program year, the alternate attestation will be set to “Rejected.”
- It does not count as a switch to from one program to the other as 2014 was the last year to do so.
- An EP using this method counts as skipping a year for the Medicaid incentive program and does not decrease the maximum number of years of participation in the state program.
- Use of the alternate exclusion option to avert a Medicare payment adjustment will not produce a Medicare incentive payment.
- If a provider uses the CMS alternate attestation option and subsequently discovers that they meet the patient volume requirements, they can then attest on the CO R&A.
- The alternate attestation option does not apply to providers attesting to AIU. There is no AIU option on the Medicare attestation site and this does not avert Medicare payment adjustments.
- A provider cannot attest to Meaningful Use on the Medicare site and AIU on the CO R&A in the same year.

Visit the [CMS Medicare R&A Information site](#) for additional guidance. You can also contact the EHR Information Center to assist you with all of your registration and attestation system inquiries: 1-888-734-6433* (primary number) *(press option 1)

Anticipated Timeline – Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

Event	Status/Expected Date
CO R&A System open for EPs to attest to 2015 Meaningful Use	Late Spring, 2016
CO R&A System open for EHs to attest to 2015 Meaningful Use	Fall, 2016

Medicaid Program Point of Contact and Partnerships

The Department of Healthcare Policy and Finance (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 Eligible Professionals, Eligible Hospitals, partners and other interested parties on requirements and processes. Inquiries regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program can be sent to MedicaidEHR@corhio.org or 720.285.3232.

Xerox 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.