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*The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Doctors' Office Quality Information Technology Demonstrations: Providing Leadership in the Adoption of Electronic Health Records*

### Key Words

SE0505, CMS, doctors, office, quality, information, technology, demonstrations, leadership, adoption, electronic, health, records

### Provider Types Affected

All Providers

### Key Points

- Recent studies have highlighted the potential for Healthcare Information Technology (HIT) to improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of healthcare.
- Systems that enhance patient-clinician communication, access to patient information, as well as decision support and reference data hold the promise of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare delivery.
- Enhanced HIT infrastructure allows the implementation of improved tracking and surveillance applications, which are important in battling emerging public health threats.
- There is great interest in the integration of HIT in healthcare systems by patients, payers, and health policy leaders alike.
- Despite this momentum, physician offices remain largely unengaged in terms of their adoption and use of e-health technologies.
- The CMS Doctors' Office Quality Information Technology (DOQ-IT) is a major project created to promote Electronic Health Records (EHR) in ambulatory care.
  - This two-year Special Study demonstration is designed to improve quality of care, patient safety, and efficiency for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries by promoting the adoption of Electronic Medical Records (EMR)/Electronic Health Records (EHR) and HIT in primary care physician offices.
  - This demonstration involves 4 states: California, Arkansas, Massachusetts and Utah.

- Lumetra, the California Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), is the lead Medicare QIO and is coordinating the effort through the QIO program in the other three states.
- The information gained from DOQ-IT will be used solely for the purposes of disseminating the use of HIT, and studying the role of HIT in improving healthcare delivery in the ambulatory setting.

### Additional Information

For additional information, interested providers can go to <http://www.doqit.org> or contact James Sorace MD at [jsorace@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:jsorace@cms.hhs.gov).

The related MLN Matters article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0505.pdf> on the CMS website.