

## 2012 Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program – Adoption/Use of Medication Electronic Prescribing Measure Release Notes

CMS is pleased to announce the release of the 2012 eRx Incentive Program – Adoption/Use of Medication Electronic Prescribing Measure Release Notes. Measure developers, professional organizations, and other eRx stakeholders have provided comment, clarifications, and technical corrections. The list below details changes to this existing measure made since the release of the 2011 eRx Measure Specification.

- **Title Updates**

- Added "(eRx)" (11/10/11 version)

- **Introduction Updates**

- Removed "OPTIONS" (11/10/11 version)
- Clarified "PHYSICIAN QUALITY REPORTING SYSTEM eRx ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD [EHR]" (11/10/11 version)
- Changed "Electronic Prescribing" to "eRx" (11/10/11 version)
- Added "This specification applies to the eRx Incentive Program for incentive payment eligibility only and does not provide guidance for avoiding possible payment adjustment(s) for current or upcoming program years. Additional information on how to avoid future eRx payment adjustments can be found through the *Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program Understanding Future Payment Adjustment* document available on the CMS website: <http://www.cms.gov/ERxIncentive.asp>. (11/10/11 version)
- Updated the name of document to the *2012 eRx Incentive Program: Future Payment Adjustments* (11/29/11 version)
- Updated CMS eRx web link to <http://www.cms.gov/ERxIncentive> (5/11/12 version)

- **Hardship Codes Updates**

- Removed hardship codes. Information about the hardship codes and how to avoid future eRx payment adjustments is now available through the *Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program Understanding Future Payment Adjustment* document that will be posted on the CMS website: <http://www.cms.gov/ERxIncentive>. (11/10/11 version)

- **Description Updates**

- Updated to read: "Documents whether the eligible professional has adopted a "qualified" eRx system and the extent of use in care settings defined in the specification's denominator. A "qualified" eRx system is one that:
  1. "Is capable of **ALL** of the following functionalities:" (11/10/11 version)
- Added to the second bullet in the list of required functionalities for a qualified eRx system "This functionality must be enabled" (11/10/11 version)
- Added " Additional information can be found on CMS website: <http://www.medicare.gov/navigation/medicare-basics/medicare-benefits/part-d.aspx>." (11/10/11 version)
- Added "OR 2. Is Certified EHR Technology as defined at 42 CFR 495.4 and 45 CFR 170.102. EHR technologies that meet these definitions are listed on the ONC website, <http://onc-chpl.force.com/ehrcert>." (11/10/11 version)

- **Instructions Updates**

- Changed to read: "In order to report this measure, a qualified eRx system that meets one of the above requirements must have been adopted. For incentive payment purposes, the measure is to be reported for those patient visits that meet the denominator coding criteria for which an individual eligible professional has electronically prescribed at least one prescription for a patient with Medicare Part B (eligible case). Denominator coding criteria for this measure includes various care settings. There is no specific diagnosis required for this measure. Faxes do not qualify as successful electronic prescribing." (11/10/11 version)
- Moved language regarding successful prescribers and incentive eligibility to "Successful Individual Electronic Prescriber – Incentive Eligible" definition (11/10/11 version)
- Added "one of" before "the above requirements must have been adopted." (11/10/11 version)
- Added "(eligible case)" (11/10/11 version)
- Moved the following language from *Instructions* to *Measure Reporting via Claims* and *Measure Reporting via Registry* sections: "A successful individual eRx prescriber must generate and report an eRx event associated with a minimum of 25 unique denominator-eligible cases per reporting period." (11/10/11 version)

- **Definitions Updates**

- Removed "Certified EHR Technology" definition (11/10/11 version)
- Added "Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act" definition. (11/10/11 version)
- Added "Meaningful Use" definition (11/10/11 version)
- Clarified "Successful Individual Electronic Prescriber - Incentive Eligible"
  - Removed "A successful individual eRx prescriber, eligible to receive an incentive payment, must generate and report one or more eRx associated with a patient visit, a minimum of 25 unique visits per year. Each visit must be accompanied by the eRx G-code attesting that during the patient visit at least one prescription was electronically prescribed. Electronically generated prescriptions not associated with a denominator eligible patient visit do not count towards the minimum of 25 different eRx events. Additionally, 10% of an eligible professional's Medicare Part B charges must be comprised of the codes in the denominator of the measure to be incentive eligible." (11/10/11 version)
  - Inserted from Instructions "The individual eligible professional who generates at least one eRx associated with a patient visit on 25 or more unique denominator-eligible cases during the reporting period (January 1 through December 31, 2012) will be considered a successful electronic prescriber for the 2012 eRx Incentive Program." (11/10/11 version)
  - Inserted from Instructions "Successful electronic prescribers who also have at least 10% of their Medicare Part B charges comprised of the codes in the denominator of the measure for the reporting period (January 1 through December 31, 2012) will be considered incentive eligible." (11/10/11 version)
  - Added "An eligible professional's analysis is performed at the Tax Identification Number/National Provider Number (TIN/NPI) level. Eligible professionals practicing under multiple TINs must report the eRx measure under each of their TINs." (11/10/11 version)
  - Added "eRx events reported on allowed Part B Medicare claims but not associated with an eligible case may be utilized to avoid the eRx Incentive Program Payment Adjustment. For additional information on how to avoid future eRx payment adjustments, please see the *Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program*

*Understanding Future Payment Adjustment* document that can be found on the CMS website: <http://www.cms.gov/ERxIncentive.asp>." (11/10/11 version)

- Updated to read: "For additional information on how to avoid future eRx payment adjustments, please see supporting document on the CMS website: <http://www.cms.gov/ERxIncentive>." (5/11/12 version)

- **Rationale**
  - New rationale added (11/10/11 version)
- **Evidence Supporting the Criterion of the Quality Measure**
  - Section deleted (11/10/11 version)