



**News Flash** – CMS would like to remind you that the Medicare Preventive Services Series Part 3 web-based training course (WBT) is currently available for free, on the CMS website. This course includes coverage, coding, and billing information for Medicare coverage of screening mammography, screening pap tests and pelvic examinations, colorectal cancer screening, bone mass measurements, and glaucoma screening. Taking this online course will help you and your staff to understand Medicare rules surrounding these important benefits. Not only that, but if you pass this course, you can earn continuing education credit. You can take access this course at any time by visiting the Preventive Services Educational products page at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/index.html> on the CMS website. Scroll down to the “Related Links Inside CMS” section and click on “Web Based Training Modules” to take the course.

MLN Matters® Number: MM6935

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6935

Related CR Release Date: June 11, 2010

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Related CR Transmittal #: R1QRI

Implementation Date: September 13, 2010

## The Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) and E-Prescribing (eRx) Medicare Quality Reporting Incentive Programs Manual

**Note:** This article was revised on May 15, 2013, to add a reference to MLN Matters® article MM7727 (<http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM7727.pdf>) and MM7879. MM7727 provides information on the latest “Medicare Quality Reporting Incentive Manual” update, regarding the yearly payment instructions used by Medicare contractors when making incentive payments. MM7879 (<http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM7879.pdf>) provides additional updates to the manual. All other information is unchanged.

### Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article for Change Request (CR) 6935 is intended for physicians and non-physician practitioners who are eligible professionals (EPs) participating in the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative and/or the E-Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Programs and submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers and Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs)) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries are affected.

#### Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

## What You Need to Know

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This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6935, which announces availability of a new Medicare manual describing the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) and E-Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Programs.

It is important to note that:

- The manual does not establish new requirements for the PQRI and eRx programs; and
- Changes to the programs are described in the annual MPFS legislation.

This new manual, entitled *Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) and E-Prescribing (eRx) Medicare Quality Reporting Incentive Programs Manual* will be Publication 100-22 and will be available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/index.html> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website. Chapter 1 of the manual describes current policies for the PQRI initiative and Chapter 2 documents current policies for the eRx program.

## Additional Information

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If you have questions, please contact your Medicare carrier and/or MAC at their toll-free number which may be found at

<http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html>

on the CMS website. The official instruction issued to your Medicare carrier and/or MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R1QRI.pdf> on the CMS website.

For additional information about PQRI and eRx programs, see the Medicare Learning Network (MLN) Catalog of Products available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/MLNCatalog.pdf> on the CMS website. This Catalog contains a special initiatives section where providers will find topics such as E-Prescribing, and Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI). Provider and Subject Indexes help identify products suggested for a specific type of provider or on a specific subject.

You may want to review SE1107 (<http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1107.pdf>) which alerts providers that beginning in 2011, eligible professionals who are not successful electronic prescribers may be subject to a payment adjustment on their Medicare Part B Physician Fee Schedule covered professional services.

You may want to review SE1206 (<http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1206.pdf>) that gives eligible providers detailed information on the operation of the eRx payment adjustments for 2012-2014 and information on exemptions.

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