

Thursday, May 26, 2016

## MLN Connects<sup>®</sup> Events

Physician Compare Initiative Call — Registration Now Open  
New Audio Recording and Transcript Available

## Other CMS Events

Comparative Billing Report on Podiatry: Nail Debridement and E/M Services Webinar

## Medicare Learning Network<sup>®</sup> Publications and Multimedia

PECOS for DMEPOS Suppliers Fact Sheet - Reminder  
New Educational Web Guides Fast Fact

## Announcements

New Quality Payment Program Webpages  
2016 PQRS GPRO Registration Open through June 30  
Updates to IRIS Software

## MLN Connects<sup>®</sup> Events

### Physician Compare Initiative Call — Registration Now Open

Thursday, June 16 from 1:30 to 3 pm ET

To Register: Visit [MLN Connects Event Registration](#). Space may be limited, register early.

Interested in learning more about [Physician Compare](#) and the future of public reporting? Physician Compare provides information to consumers to help them make informed health care decisions and incentivizes physicians to maximize their performance. CMS experts will walk you through the information currently available, upcoming plans, and the future of Physician Compare under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA). Learn more on the [Physician Compare Initiative](#) page. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

#### Agenda:

- Physician Compare overview
- Your information on Physician Compare
- Quality data and public reporting standards
- Publicly reported benchmark
- 5-star ratings
- Impact of MACRA

Target Audience: Physicians and other health care professionals, medical group practices, practice managers, medical and specialty societies, and other interested stakeholders.

Continuing education credit may be awarded for participation in certain MLN Connects Calls. Visit the [Continuing Education Credit Information](#) webpage to learn more.

## New Audio Recording and Transcript Available

An [audio recording](#) and [transcript](#) are available for the May 10 listening session on [MACRA: Quality Payment Program Proposed Rule](#). The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) changes the way Medicare rewards clinicians for providing quality care by streamlining multiple quality programs into a new Quality Payment Program tied to Part B Fee-For-Service payments.

## Other CMS Events

### Comparative Billing Report on Podiatry: Nail Debridement and E/M Services Webinar

Wednesday, June 22 from 3 to 4:30 pm ET

Join CMS for an informative discussion of the comparative billing report on Podiatry: Nail Debridement and Evaluation and Management (E/M) Services (CBR201608), an educational tool for podiatry providers who bill for nail debridement and E/M services in an office setting. During the webinar, providers will interact directly with content specialists and submit questions about the report. See the [announcement](#) for more information and find out how to participate.

## Medicare Learning Network® Publications and Multimedia

### PECOS for DMEPOS Suppliers Fact Sheet - Reminder

The [PECOS for DMEPOS Suppliers](#) Fact Sheet is available. Learn about:

- Medicare enrollment application submission options in the Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS)
- Individual and organizational Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) suppliers

### New Educational Web Guides Fast Fact

A new fast fact is available on the [Educational Web Guides](#) webpage. Learn about:

- Evaluation and Management services
- Guided Pathways resource booklets
- Health care management, billing, and coding products

## Announcements

## New Quality Payment Program Webpages

Visit the new [Quality Payment Program](#) webpage for the latest information on key milestones, training opportunities, and educational materials about the new approach to paying Medicare clinicians for quality care. The Quality Payment Program stems from the bipartisan Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA).

- Register for webinars and calls on the [Events](#) webpage
- Comment on the [proposed rule](#) to establish the Quality Payment Program by June 27

## 2016 PQRS GPRO Registration Open through June 30

Groups of two or more Eligible Professionals (EPs) can avoid the -2.0% CY 2018 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) payment adjustment by meeting the satisfactory reporting criteria through the 2016 PQRS Group Reporting Option (GPRO). The Physician Value - PQRS (PV-PQRS) Registration System is now open through June 30 for groups to select a GPRO reporting mechanism:

- Qualified PQRS Registry
- Electronic Health Record (EHR) via Direct EHR using certified EHR technology (CEHRT) or CEHRT via Data Submission Vendor
- Web Interface (for groups with 25 or more EPs only)
- Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR)
- Consumer Assessment of Health Providers and Systems (CAHPS) for PQRS Survey via a CMS-certified Survey Vendor (as a supplement to another GPRO reporting mechanism)

Avoiding the CY 2018 PQRS payment adjustment by satisfactorily reporting via a PQRS GPRO is one of the ways groups can avoid the automatic downward payment adjustment under the Value Modifier (-2.0% or -4.0% depending on the size and composition of the group) and qualify for adjustments based on performance in CY 2018. Alternatively, groups that choose not to report via the PQRS GPRO in 2016 must ensure that the EPs in the group participate in the PQRS as individuals in 2016 and at least 50 percent of the EPs meet the criteria to avoid the CY 2018 PQRS payment adjustment.

For More Information:

- [2016 PQRS GPRO Registration Guide](#)
- [PQRS GPRO Registration](#) webpage
- [PQRS Payment Adjustment Information](#) webpage
- [CAHPS for PQRS Made Simple](#)

## Updates to IRIS Software

The IRIS software programs (IRISV3 and IRISEDV3) each have three updated files (medical school codes, residency type codes, and IRISV3 Operating Instructions) for collecting and reporting information on resident training in hospital and non-hospital settings. They are categorized as follows:

October 2015 IRISV3 Operating Instructions and Excerpts from IRISV3 Operating Instructions to Use with IRISEDV3:

- CMS added sixteen new IRIS residency type codes to the IRIS Residency Type Code Table
- CMS also added four new IRIS medical school codes to the IRIS Medical School Code Table

The IRIS programs are available for downloading via the [IRIS](#) website.

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