



## Q & A - Meaningful Use

Under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 Eligible Professionals need to demonstrate Meaningful Use of a certified electronic health record for a period of 90 days in 2011 to qualify for incentive payments through Medicare and Medicaid.

As your business partner, we are committed to helping guide you through the process of determining what Meaningful Use means to you and your practice.

Below is a short Q&A regarding Meaningful Use

**Question: Is Meaningful Use mandatory?**

**Answer: No, but penalties will begin in 2015 in the form of Medicare reimbursement cuts.**

**Question: Is it exclusively for new implementations?**

**Answer: No. Providers who already have the EMR as well as providers who are planning to purchase EMR in the future are eligible to participate.**

**Question: Who CAN participate?**

**Answer: Medicare Eligible Professionals (EP) Doctors of medicine or osteopathy, podiatry, optometry and chiropractic medicine and dental surgery.**

**Medicaid Eligible Professionals (EP)**

**\*Physicians**

**\*Dentists**

**\*Certified Nurse Midwives**

**\*Nurse Practitioners**

**\*Physician Assistants who are practicing in federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) or rural health clinics (RHCs) led by Physician Assistant**

**Question: Who CAN'T participate?**

**Answer: Hospital Based Physicians (90% of your services (not charges) are service codes 21 (inpatient hospital) or 23 (emergency department))**

**Question: Is Centricity a certified system?**

**Answer: Centricity Practice Solution version 9.5 is certified and is available now.**

**Question: How do providers get paid?**

**Answer: Attest through a web based portal for Medicare and Medicaid to receive a single, consolidated annual payment. There is no need to attest in the first year for Medicaid. Payments under Medicare will be disbursed through a single payment contractor to the Tax Identification Number (TIN) provided by the qualifying EP.**

**Question: How much do providers get paid?**

**Answer: For EP's who demonstrate meaningful use can receive up to a total of \$44,000 over five years participating in the Medicare program and up to \$63,750 over six years participating in the Medicaid program. For the first year for which an EP applies for and receives an incentive payment, the EHR Reporting Period is 90 days for any continuous period beginning and ending within the year. For every year after the first payment year, the EHR reporting period is the entire year.**

- \*To register for the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, please visit the following website: <http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/>
- \* This overview is meant to provide a reference tool indicating the key elements of meaningful use. It does not provide sufficient information for providers to document and demonstrate meaningful use in order to obtain incentives. The complete details can be found at [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov).



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Calendar Year	First CY for which the EP Receives an Incentive Payment				2015 and subsequent years
	2011	2012	2013	2014	
2011	\$18,000	---	---	---	---
2012	\$12,000	\$18,000	---	---	---
2013	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$15,000	---	---
2014	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	---
2015	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0
2016	---	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	<b>\$39,000</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Question: Is participation allowed in both Medicare and Medicaid?**

**Answer: No. An EP can participate in either Medicare or Medicaid. One transfer from Medicare to Medicaid or vice versa is allowed.**

**Question: What is MQIC and how does it relate to Meaningful Use?**

**Answer: MQIC is a data warehouse for Centricity EMR users that will meet the ARRA reporting requirements for Meaningful Use. MQIC is also certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the Physicians Quality Reporting Program.**

**Question: Where can I find the criteria for Meaningful Use?**

**Answer: We have published a summary of the criteria released on July 13th as the final rule for Stage 1 of Meaningful Use. Please visit [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov) for additional information.**

**Question: How do I get started?**

**Answer: Step 1: Load two reports that were designed by our development team at Final Support, Inc. These reports will provide both patient demographic information and financial indicators for Medicare and Medicaid in your practice. These reports are located on your product update page.**

**Step 2: Contact your Final Support sales representative if you have not already purchased Centricity EMR and would like more information about Meaningful Use.**