

2018 MIPS Promoting Interoperability Performance Category Fact Sheet

The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) ended the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula, which would have made major cuts to Medicare payment rates for clinicians. The law requires us to implement the Quality Payment Program and gives you 2 ways to participate:



Please note that this guide focuses on MIPS. For more information on how to participate in APMs, visit the [APMs Overview page](#) on the [QPP website](#). Additionally, clinicians participating in a MIPS APM should refer to the MIPS APMs fact sheet for more information.

Under MIPS, there are 4 performance categories that affect your future Medicare payments. Each performance category is scored by itself and has a specific weight that's part of the MIPS Final Score. The MIPS payment adjustment assessed for MIPS eligible clinicians is based on the Final Score. These are the performance categories for the 2018 performance period:

MIPS Performance Categories for Year 2 (2018)



Starting in 2018, MIPS eligible clinicians may participate in MIPS individually, as a group, or as a Virtual Group.

<i>Participate as an individual</i>	<i>Participate as a group</i>	<i>Participate as a Virtual Group</i>
<p>MIPS eligible clinicians participating as individuals, will have their payment adjustment based on their individual performance.</p> <p>An individual is a single clinician, identified by a single National Provider Identifier (NPI) number tied to a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN).</p>	<p>MIPS eligible clinicians participating in MIPS with a group will receive a payment adjustment based on the group's performance.</p> <p>Under MIPS, a group is a single Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) with 2 or more eligible clinicians (including at least 1 MIPS eligible clinician) as identified by their National Provider Identifiers (NPI), who have reassigned their Medicare billing rights to the TIN.</p>	<p>MIPS eligible clinicians participating in MIPS with a Virtual Group will receive a payment adjustment based on the Virtual Group's performance.</p> <p>A Virtual Group can be made up of solo practitioners and groups of 10 or fewer eligible clinicians who come together “virtually” (no matter what specialty or location) to participate in MIPS for a performance period for a year</p>

What is the Promoting Interoperability Performance Category?

The Promoting Interoperability (PI, formerly Advancing Care Information) performance category promotes:

- Patient engagement
- The electronic exchange of health information using certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT)

The PI performance category replaced the Medicare EHR Incentive Program for eligible professionals. It gives you more flexibility when you pick measures than the Medicare EHR Incentive Program did. In 2018, this performance category is worth 25% of your MIPS Final Score.

How Can I Use CEHRT to Report PI?

In 2018, there will still be 2 measure set options to report:

- PI Objectives and Measures
- 2018 PI Transition Objectives and Measures

The option you'll use to send in data is based on your CEHRT edition.

You can report the **2018 PI Objectives and Measures** if you have:

- Technology certified to the 2015 Edition; or
- A combination of technologies certified to the 2014 and 2015 Editions that support these measures.

You can report the **2018 PI Transition Objectives and Measures** if you have:

- Technology certified to the 2015 Edition; or
- Technology certified to the 2014 Edition; or
- A combination of technologies certified to the 2014 and 2015 Editions.

In the 2018 performance period, clinicians and groups that exclusively report the PI Objectives and Measures will earn a 10% bonus for using only 2015 Edition CEHRT.

[Appendix A](#) has the full list of PI measures and 2018 PI transition measures. You can also find more details outlining each element of the PI measures and 2018 PI transition measures in the [PI Measure Specifications](#).

How is the PI Performance Category Score Calculated?

For scoring in the PI performance category (weighted at 25% of the MIPS Final Score), you may earn a maximum score of up to **165%**, but any score above 100% will be capped at **100%**. We designed scoring this way on purpose to make sure you have the flexibility to focus on measures that are the most relevant to you and your practice.

The PI score is the sum of these 3 scores:



The performance score and bonus score are added to the base score to get the total PI performance category score:



The total PI performance category score will then be multiplied by the 25% PI category weight. This product is then added to the overall MIPS final score.

For example, if a MIPS eligible clinician receives the base score (50%) and a 40% performance score and no bonus score, they would earn a 90% PI performance category score. When weighted by 25%, this would add 22.5 points to the overall MIPS final score. ($90 \times .25 = 22.5$).

When is the PI Score Reweighted?

You have to use CEHRT to report on the PI performance category measures. You have to meet certain criteria in order to qualify for a reweighting of this performance category to 0%. Not having CEHRT is not sufficient by itself to qualify for a reweighting. The reweighting to 0% means that the PI performance category isn't included in your MIPS final score.

Here are the 2 reasons your PI performance category may be reweighted:

1. You're one of the following types of MIPS eligible clinicians who qualify for automatic reweighting:

- Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) - based MIPS eligible clinicians (begins with the 2017 performance period)
- Hospital-based MIPS eligible clinicians (definition updated to include off-campus outpatient hospital (Place of Service Code 19))
- Physician assistants
- Nurse practitioners
- Clinical nurse specialists
- Certified registered nurse anesthetists
- Clinicians who lack face-to-face interactions with patients

You can still choose to report if you'd like. If you do submit data, we'll score your performance and weight your PI performance at 25% of your MIPS final score.

To qualify as a hospital-based MIPS eligible clinician:

- If you report for MIPS as an individual clinician, you have to furnish 75% or more of your covered professional services in the inpatient hospital, on-campus outpatient hospital, off-campus outpatient hospital or emergency room settings (based on place of service codes) during the applicable determination period.
- If you report for MIPS as part of a group or virtual group, all of the MIPS eligible clinicians in the group must furnish 75% or more of their covered professional services in the inpatient hospital, on-campus outpatient hospital, or, off-campus outpatient hospital emergency room settings (based on place of service codes) during the determination period prior to the performance period as specified by CMS.

If reporting for MIPS as a group, all MIPS eligible clinicians in the group must qualify for reweighting in order for the PI performance category score to be reweighted.

However, if you're one of these types of clinicians, you can still choose to report if you'd like. If you do submit data, we'll score your performance and weight your PI performance.

2. You're a MIPS eligible clinician who has applied for reweighting, using one of these reasons:

- You're in a small practice
- You're using decertified EHR technology
- You have insufficient internet connectivity

- You have extreme and uncontrollable circumstances
- You don't have any control over whether CEHRT is available

You'll have to submit your application by December 31, 2018 for us to reweight the PI performance category to 0%. We'll be giving detailed information about the 2018 application and when the application will be available for submission in upcoming sub-regulatory guidance. We'll also be giving guidance on how to submit a 2018 hardship application.

What are the Minimum PI Requirements?

For you to earn a score for the PI performance category, here are the minimum requirements:

- Use CEHRT
- Submit the performance period (a minimum of 90 consecutive days period in 2018)
- Submit a "yes" to the Prevention of Information Blocking Attestation
- Submit a "yes" to the ONC Direct Review Attestation
- Submit a "yes" for the security risk analysis measure, and at least a 1 in the numerator for the remaining base score measures or submit an exclusion for the base score measures

How is the Base Score Calculated?

You'll need to meet the requirements of all the base score measures in order to receive the 50% base score. If these requirements are not met, you will get a **0** for the overall PI performance category score.

In order to receive the 50% base score, you have to submit a "yes" for the security risk analysis measure, and **at least a 1** in the numerator for the numerator/denominator of the remaining measures.

The 5 base score PI measures are:

1. Security Risk Analysis
2. e-Prescribing*
3. Provide Patient Access
4. Send a Summary of Care*
5. Request/Accept Summary of Care*

The 4 base score 2018 PI **transition** measures are:

1. Security Risk Analysis
2. e-Prescribing*
3. Provide Patient Access
4. Health Information Exchange*

*The 2018 Quality Payment Program final rule with comment period added exclusions for the e-Prescribing and Health Information Exchange measures beginning with the 2017 performance period.

If you qualify for these exclusions, you can still receive the base score if you claim the exclusion through attestation, EHR, QCDR, or Qualified Registry reporting.

- When submitting via manual attestation, check the box below the appropriate measure(s) to indicate the exclusion.
- When submitting data extracted from CEHRT via file upload or Application Programming Interface (API), submit the exclusion measure appropriate to your CEHRT edition.

Promoting Interoperability Measure Set

- PI_LVPP_1 e-Prescribing Exclusion
- PI_LVOTC_1 Send a Summary of Care Exclusion
- PI_LVITC_1 Request/Accept Summary of Care Exclusion

Promoting Interoperability Transition Measure Set

- PI_TRANS_LVPP_1 e-Prescribing Exclusion
- PI_TRANS_LVTOC_1 Health Information Exchange Exclusion

If you claim these exclusions, you'll meet the base score but will receive a 0% performance score for the excluded measure(s). If you report a 0 in the numerator/denominator for these measures **without** claiming the exclusion, you wouldn't meet the base score and would receive a **0** for the overall PI performance category score.

- **e-Prescribing Exclusion (both measure sets):** Any MIPS eligible clinician who writes fewer than 100 permissible prescriptions during the performance period
- **Send a Summary of Care Exclusion (PI measure):** Any MIPS eligible clinician who transfers a patient to another setting or refers a patient fewer than 100 times during the performance period.
- **Request/Accept a Summary of Care Exclusion (PI measure):**
Any MIPS eligible clinician who receives transitions of care or referrals fewer than 100 times during the performance period OR has patient encounters where the MIPS eligible clinician hasn't ever before encountered the patient fewer than 100 times during the performance period
- **Health Information Exchange Exclusion (2018 PI transition measure):** Any MIPS eligible clinician who transfers a patient to another setting or refers a patient fewer than 100 times during the performance period.

How is the Performance Score Calculated?

We calculate the performance score using the numerators and denominators you submitted for measures included in the performance score. There's one measure that we use the "yes" or "no" as the answer submitted.

The potential total performance score is 90%. For each measure with a numerator/denominator, the percentage score is determined by the performance rate. Most measures are worth a maximum of 10 percentage points, except for two measures included in the 2018 Transition measures, which are worth up to 20 percentage points.

Performance rates for each measure worth up to 10%	
Performance Rate >0-10 = 1%	Performance Rate 51-60 = 6%
Performance Rate 11-20 = 2%	Performance Rate 61-70 = 7%
Performance Rate 21-30 = 3%	Performance Rate 71-80 = 8%
Performance Rate 31-40 = 4%	Performance Rate 81-90 = 9%
Performance Rate 41-50 = 5%	Performance Rate 91-100 = 10%

For example, if a MIPS eligible clinician submits a numerator and denominator of 85/100 for the Patient-Specific Education measure, their performance rate would be 85%, and they would earn 9 out of 10 % points for that measure.

Performance rates for each measure worth up to 20%	
Performance Rate >0-10 = 2%	Performance Rate 51-60 = 12%
Performance Rate 11-20 = 4%	Performance Rate 61-70 = 14%
Performance Rate 21-30 = 6%	Performance Rate 71-80 = 16%
Performance Rate 31-40 = 8%	Performance Rate 81-90 = 18%
Performance Rate 41-50 = 10%	Performance Rate 91-100 = 20%

The only performance score measures that have yes/no responses are the Public Health and Clinical Data Registry (CDR) Reporting measures and the Public Health Reporting measures. MIPS eligible clinicians who are actively working with a public health agency or clinical data registry who submit a "yes" for one of these measures would receive the full 10%. When reporting as a group, the group can submit a "yes" for one of these measures as long as 1 clinician in the group is actively working with one of these entities.

How is the Bonus Score Calculated?

You can earn bonus percentage points:

- Reporting “yes” for 1 or more additional public health agencies or clinical data registries beyond the one identified for the performance score measure results in a 5% bonus. Like the performance score measure, groups can claim this as long as 1 clinician in the group is actively working with an entity that’s different from what’s reported for the performance score.
- Reporting “yes” to the completion of at least 1 of the specified Improvement Activities using CEHRT will result in a 10% bonus and submitting that activity for the Improvement Activity performance category. See [Appendix B](#) for the list of Improvement Activities that may be completed using CEHRT to qualify for the bonus.
- Reporting only from the PI Objectives and Measures set (and only using 2015 edition CEHRT) will result in a 10% bonus.

How is the PI Performance Score Calculated for Group Reporting?

When reporting as a group to the PI performance category, the group should combine all of their MIPS eligible clinicians’ data under one Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN).

This includes the data of MIPS eligible clinicians who may qualify for a reweighting of the PI performance category, such as a significant hardship or other type of exception, hospital-based or ASC-based status, and certain types of non-physician practitioners (NPs, PAs, CNSs, and CRNAs). If these MIPS eligible clinicians report as part of a group or virtual group, and have data in CEHRT, their data should be included and they will be scored on the PI performance category like all other MIPS eligible clinicians.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1. If a practice has multiple office locations under the same Tax Identification Number (TIN), and one office is within a broadband availability area but the other office for the practice is not, would that practice still qualify for the hardship exception for Insufficient Internet Connectivity (same TIN)?**

No, the office with broadband availability would not qualify for the hardship exception and, if a practice has an office site with sufficient internet access, the group must report for those clinicians for whom they have data.

- 2. Can MIPS eligible clinicians who have switched CEHRT vendors apply for a hardship exception and have their PI performance category weight reallocated to the Quality performance category?**

Yes, if a MIPS eligible clinician switches CEHRT vendors during the performance period and is unable to report for the PI performance category, the clinician may apply for an Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances hardship exception. For example, if a MIPS eligible clinician switches CEHRT vendors in 2018 and is unable to submit measures for the PI performance category for the 2018 performance period, the MIPS eligible clinician can apply for an Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstance category hardship exception before the submission deadline, December 31, 2018.

- 3. Will CMS require the submission of supporting documentation along with the Quality Payment Program hardship exception application?**

CMS does not require a MIPS eligible clinician or group to submit documentation with the hardship exception application. CMS will review the application to record the category selected and use the identifying information for each clinician and group listed on the application. MIPS eligible clinicians and groups should retain documentation of their circumstances supporting their application for their own records in the event CMS requests data validation or audit.

- 4. If I submit a Quality Payment Program hardship exception application, does that mean that I cannot report on the PI performance category for the 2018 performance period?**

No. You may still report on the PI performance category; however, if you choose to report, your data will be scored and your hardship exception will be dismissed.

- 5. What can count as a specialized registry?**

A submission to a specialized registry may count if the receiving entity meets the following requirements: The receiving entity must declare that they are ready to accept data as a specialized registry and be using the data to improve population health outcomes. Most public health agencies and clinical data registries are declaring readiness via a public online posting. Registries should make this information publicly available for potential registrants. The receiving entity must also be able to receive electronic data generated from CEHRT. The electronic file can be sent to the receiving entity through any appropriately secure mechanism including, but not limited to, a secure upload function on a web portal or Direct. Manual data entry into a web portal would not qualify for submission to a specialized registry. The receiving entity should have a registration of intent process, a process to take



the MIPS eligible clinician through test and validation and a process to move into production. The receiving entity should be able to provide appropriate documentation for the sending provider or their current status in Active Engagement. For qualified clinical data registries (QCDRs), reporting to a QCDR may count for the public health specialized registry measure as long as the submission to the registry is not only for the purposes of meeting CQM requirements of the Quality performance category of MIPS. In other words, the submission may count if the registry is also using the data for a public health purpose. Many QCDRs use the data for a public health purpose beyond CQM reporting to CMS. A submission to such a registry would meet the requirement for the measure if the submission data is derived from CEHRT and transmitted electronically.

6. For MIPS, to calculate the PI measures and the PI transition measures for View, Download, and Transmit, Secure Messaging and Patient-Specific Education requiring patient action, can other MIPS eligible clinicians in the group or as part of the care team get credit for the action in meeting the measure?

The transitive effect applies to the View, Download and Transmit measures, Secure Messaging measures and to the Patient-Specific Education measures. If a MIPS eligible clinician initiates or responds to a patient's secure message about a clinical or health related subject on behalf of the group or care team, that patient can be counted in the numerator of the Secure Messaging measure for any of the MIPS eligible clinicians in the group or part of the care team who use the same CEHRT and who saw the patient during their performance period. Similarly, if a patient views, downloads, or transmits to a third party the health information that was made available online by their MIPS eligible clinician, that patient can be counted in the numerator for any of the MIPS eligible clinicians in that group or care team who use the same CEHRT and saw that patient during their performance period. If patient-specific education resources are provided electronically, it may be counted in the numerator for any MIPS eligible clinician within the group or part of the care team sharing the CEHRT who has contributed information to the patient's record if that MIPS eligible clinician has the patient in their denominator for the performance period. We clarify that: if it is not possible to determine who provided the health information, or multiple MIPS eligible clinicians in the group (or part of the care team) saw the patient during their performance period, or multiple MIPS eligible clinicians contributed information to the patient's record and those MIPS eligible clinicians have the patient in their denominator for the performance period, then the patient can be counted in the numerator of the applicable measure(s) for those MIPS eligible clinicians. We note that this could include all MIPS eligible clinicians who share the same CEHRT and saw the patient during the performance period.

7. For the Protect Patient Health Information (ePHI) objective, can the security risk analysis or review take place outside the MIPS performance period.

Yes, it is acceptable for the security risk analysis to be conducted outside the MIPS performance period; however, the analysis must be conducted for the CEHRT used during the MIPS performance period and the analysis or review must be conducted on an annual basis and within the calendar year of the performance period. In other words, the MIPS eligible clinician or group must conduct a unique analysis or review applicable for the MIPS performance period and the scope of the analysis or review must include the full MIPS performance period.

8. For the purposes of reporting to the PI performance category, does an eligible clinician or group practice need to include data from CEHRT certified to the criteria for an inpatient setting?

No, if the CEHRT is not equipped with all the capabilities necessary for an eligible clinician to satisfy the PI measures, or is part of a CEHRT specific to an inpatient setting, the eligible clinician does not need to include data from that CEHRT in their calculations.

9. What if my CEHRT is decertified?

If your CEHRT is decertified, you can still use that CEHRT to submit your PI performance category measures if your performance period ended before the decertification occurred. If your performance period ended after the decertification occurred, you can apply for a hardship exception.

Appendix A: PI Performance Category Measures & Scores

This is a chart of all the PI measures and 2018 PI transition measures. You can find more details about each PI measure and 2018 PI transition measure in the PI Specification Sheets.

PI Measures & Scores

Required Measures for 50% Base Score
Security Risk Analysis
e-Prescribing
Provide Patient Access*
Send a Summary of Care*
Request/Accept Summary Care*

2018 PI Transition Measures & Scores

Required Measures for 50% Base Score
Security Risk Analysis
e-Prescribing
Provide Patient Access*
Health Information Exchange*

*Note that these measures are also included as performance score measures and will allow a clinician to earn a score that contributes to the performance score (see the list below).

Measures for Performance Score	% Points
Provide Patient Access*	Up to 10%
Send a Summary of Care*	Up to 10%
Request/Accept Summary Care*	Up to 10%
Patient Specific Education	Up to 10%
View, Download or Transmit (VDT)	Up to 10%
Secure Messaging	Up to 10%
Patient-Generated Health Data	Up to 10%
Clinical Information Reconciliation	Up to 10%
One of the Public Health and Clinical Data Registry Reporting Measures	0 or 10%

Measures for Performance Score	% Points
Provide Patient Access*	Up to 20%
Health Information Exchange*	Up to 20%
View, Download, or Transmit (VDT)	Up to 10%
Patient-Specific Education	Up to 10%
Secure Messaging	Up to 10%
Medication Reconciliation	Up to 10%
One of the Public Health Reporting Measures	0 or 10%

Requirements for Bonus Score	% Points
*Report to 1 or more of the following public health agencies or clinical data registries not reported for the performance score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immunization Registry Reporting • Syndromic Surveillance Reporting • Electronic Case Reporting • Public Health Registry Reporting • Clinical Data Registry Reporting 	5%
Report certain Improvement Activities using CEHRT	10%
Report exclusively from this measure set (2015 edition CEHRT)	10%

Requirements for Bonus Score	% Points
*Report to 1 or more of the following public health reporting registries not reported for the performance score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immunization Registry Reporting • Syndromic Surveillance Reporting • Specialized Registry Reporting 	5%
Report certain Improvement Activities using CEHRT	10%

Appendix B: Improvement Activities Eligible for the PI Performance Category Bonus

This chart shows you the subset of Improvement Activities from the complete list of Improvement Activities performance category that can be tied to the objectives, measures, and CEHRT functions of the PI performance category beginning with the 2018 performance period. These would qualify for the bonus in the PI performance category if you complete them using CEHRT and report them when you submit to the Improvement Activities performance category. While these activities can be made much better by using CEHRT, you don't need to use CEHRT to complete these activities for the Improvement Activities performance category.

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Activity	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight	Related PI Measure(s)
Expanded Practice Access	Provide 24/7 access to eligible clinicians or groups who have real-time access to patient's medical record	Provide 24/7 access to MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or care teams for advice about urgent and emergent care (for example, eligible clinician and care team access to medical record, cross-coverage with access to medical record, or protocol-driven nurse line with access to medical record) that could include one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expanded hours in evenings and weekends with access to the patient medical record (for example, coordinate with small practices to provide alternate hour office visits and urgent care); - Use of alternatives to increase access to care team by MIPS eligible clinicians and groups, such as e-visits, phone visits, group visits, home visits and alternative locations (for example, senior centers and assisted living centers); and/or - Provision of same-day or next day access to a consistent MIPS eligible clinician, group or care team when needed for urgent care or transition management. 	High	Provide Patient Access Secure Messaging Send a Summary of Care Request/Accept Summary of Care
Patient Safety and Practice Assessment	Communication of Unscheduled Visit for Adverse Drug Event and Nature of Event	A MIPS eligible clinician providing unscheduled care (such as an emergency room, urgent care, or other unplanned encounter) attests that, for greater than 75 percent of case visits that result from a clinically significant adverse drug event, the MIPS eligible clinician transmits	Medium	Secure Messaging Send A Summary of Care Request/Accept

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Activity	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight	Related PI Measure(s)
		information, including through the use of CEHRT to the patient's primary care clinician regarding both the unscheduled visit and the nature of the adverse drug event within 48 hours. A clinically significant adverse event is defined as a medication-related harm or injury such as side-effects, suprathereapeutic effects, allergic reactions, laboratory abnormalities, or medication errors requiring urgent/emergent evaluation, treatment, or hospitalization.		Summary of Care
Patient Safety and Practice Assessment	Consulting AUC using clinical decision support when ordering advanced diagnostic imaging	Clinicians attest that they are consulting specified applicable AUC through a qualified clinical decision support mechanism for all applicable imaging services furnished in an applicable setting, paid for under an applicable payment system, and ordered on or after January 1, 2018. This activity is for clinicians that are early adopters of the Medicare AUC program (2018 performance year) and for clinicians that begin the Medicare AUC program in future years as specified in our regulation at §414.94. The AUC program is required under section 218 of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014. Qualified mechanisms will be able to provide a report to the ordering clinician that can be used to assess patterns of image-ordering and improve upon those patterns to ensure that patients are receiving the most appropriate imaging for their individual condition.	High	Clinical Decision Support (CEHRT function only)
Patient Safety and Practice Assessment	Cost Display for Laboratory and Radiographic Orders	Implementation of a cost display for laboratory and radiographic orders, such as costs that can be obtained through the Medicare clinical laboratory fee schedule.	Medium	Clinical Decision Support (CEHRT function only)
Population Management	Glycemic screening services	For at-risk outpatient Medicare beneficiaries, individual MIPS eligible clinicians and groups must attest to implementation of systematic preventive approaches in clinical practice for at least 60 percent for the 2018 performance period and 75	Medium	Patient-Specific Education Patient Generated Health Data or Data from

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Activity	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight	Related PI Measure(s)
		percent in future years, of CEHRT with documentation of screening patients for abnormal blood glucose according to current US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and/or American Diabetes Association (ADA) guidelines.		Nonclinical Settings
Population Management	Glycemic management services	<p>For outpatient Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes and who are prescribed antidiabetic agents (for example, insulin, sulfonylureas), MIPS eligible clinicians and groups must attest to having:</p> <p>For the first performance period, at least 60 percent of medical records with documentation of an individualized glycemic treatment goal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Takes into account patient-specific factors, including, at least 1) age, 2) comorbidities, and 3) risk for hypoglycemia, and b) Is reassessed at least annually. <p>The performance threshold will increase to 75 percent for the second performance period and onward. Clinicians would attest that, 60 percent for first year, or 75 percent for the second year, of their medical records that document individualized glycemic treatment represent patients who are being treated for at least 90 days during the performance period.</p>	High	Patient Generated Health Data Clinical Information Reconciliation Clinical Decision Support, CCDS, Family Health History (CEHRT functions only)
Population Management	Glycemic referring services	For at-risk outpatient Medicare beneficiaries, individual MIPS eligible clinicians and groups must attest to implementation of systematic preventive approaches in clinical practice for at least 60 percent for the CY 2018 performance period and 75 percent in future years, of CEHRT with documentation of referring eligible patients with prediabetes to a CDC-recognized diabetes prevention program operating under the	Medium	Patient-Specific Education Patient Generated Health Data or Data from Nonclinical Settings

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Activity	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight	Related PI Measure(s)
		framework of the National Diabetes Prevention Program.		
Population Management	Anticoagulant management improvements	<p>Individual MIPS eligible clinicians and groups who prescribe oral Vitamin K antagonist therapy (warfarin) must attest that, for 60 percent of practice patients in the transition year and 75 percent of practice patients in Quality Payment Program Year 2 and future years, their ambulatory care patients receiving warfarin are being managed by one or more of the following improvement activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Patients are being managed by an anticoagulant management service, that involves systematic and coordinated care, incorporating comprehensive patient education, systematic prothrombin time (PT-INR) testing, tracking, follow-up, and patient communication of results and dosing decisions; - Patients are being managed according to validated electronic decision support and clinical management tools that involve systematic and coordinated care, incorporating comprehensive patient education, systematic PT-INR testing, tracking, follow-up, and patient communication of results and dosing decisions; - For rural or remote patients, patients are managed using remote monitoring or telehealth options that involve systematic and coordinated care, incorporating comprehensive patient education, systematic PT-INR testing, tracking, follow-up, and patient communication of results and dosing decisions; and/or - For patients who demonstrate motivation, competency, and adherence, patients are managed using either a patient self-testing (PST) or patient-self management (PSM) program. 	High	<p>Provide Patient Access</p> <p>Patient-Specific Education</p> <p>View, Download, Transmit</p> <p>Secure Messaging</p> <p>Patient Generated Health Data or Data from Non-Clinical Setting</p> <p>Send a Summary of Care</p> <p>Request/Accept Summary of Care Clinical Information</p> <p>Reconciliation Exchange</p> <p>Clinical Decision Support (CEHRT Function Only)</p>

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Activity	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight	Related PI Measure(s)
Population Management	Provide Clinical-Community Linkages	Engaging community health workers to provide a comprehensive link to community resources through family-based services focusing on success in health, education, and self-sufficiency. This activity supports individual MIPS eligible clinicians or groups that coordinate with primary care and other clinicians, engage and support patients, use of CEHRT, and employ quality measurement and improvement processes. An example of this community based program is the NCQA Patient-Centered Connected Care (PCCC) Recognition Program or other such programs that meet these criteria	Medium	Provide Patient Access Patient-Specific Education Patient-Generated Health Data
Population Management	Advance Care Planning	Implementation of practices/processes to develop advance care planning that includes: documenting the advance care plan or living will within CEHRT, educating clinicians about advance care planning, motivating them to address advance care planning needs of their patients, and how these needs can translate into quality improvement, educating clinicians on approaches and barriers to talking to patients about end-of-life and palliative care needs and ways to manage its documentation, as well as informing clinicians of the healthcare policy side of advance care planning.	Medium	Patient-Specific Education Patient-Generated Health Data
Population Management	Chronic care and preventative care management for empaneled patients	Proactively manage chronic and preventive care for empaneled patients that could include one or more of the following: - Provide patients annually with an opportunity for development and/or adjustment of an individualized plan of care as appropriate to age and health status, including health risk appraisal; gender, age and condition-specific preventive care services; plan of care for chronic conditions; and advance care planning; - Use condition-specific pathways for care of chronic conditions (for example, hypertension, diabetes, depression, asthma and heart failure)	Medium	Provide Patient Access Patient-Specific Education View, Download, Transmit Secure Messaging Patient Generated

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Activity	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight	Related PI Measure(s)
		<p>with evidence-based protocols to guide treatment to target;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use pre-visit planning to optimize preventive care and team management of patients with chronic conditions; - Use panel support tools (registry functionality) to identify services due; - Use reminders and outreach (for example, phone calls, emails, postcards, patient portals and community health workers where available) to alert and educate patients about services due; and/or - Routine medication reconciliation. 		<p>health Data or Data from Non-Clinical Setting</p> <p>Send A Summary of Care</p> <p>Request/Accept Summary of care</p> <p>Clinical Information Reconciliation</p> <p>Clinical Decision Support, Family Health History (CEHRT functions only)</p>
Population Management	Implementation of methodologies for improvements in longitudinal care management for high risk patients	<p>Provide longitudinal care management to patients at high risk for adverse health outcome or harm that could include one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Use a consistent method to assign and adjust global risk status for all empaneled patients to allow risk stratification into actionable risk cohorts. Monitor the risk-stratification method and refine as necessary to improve accuracy of risk status identification; -Use a personalized plan of care for patients at high risk for adverse health outcome or harm, integrating patient goals, values and priorities; and/or -Use on-site practice-based or shared care managers to proactively monitor and coordinate care for the highest risk cohort of patients. 	Medium	<p>Provide Patient Access</p> <p>Patient-Specific Education</p> <p>Patient Generated Health Data or Data from Nonclinical Settings</p> <p>Send A Summary of Care</p> <p>Request/Accept Summary of Care</p> <p>Clinical information reconciliation</p>

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				Clinical Decision Support, CCDS, Family Health History, Patient List (CEHRT functions only)
Population Management	Implementation of episodic care management practice improvements	Provide episodic care management, including management across transitions and referrals that could include one or more of the following: - Routine and timely follow-up to hospitalizations, ED visits and stays in other institutional settings, including symptom and disease management, and medication reconciliation and management; and/or - Managing care intensively through new diagnoses, injuries and exacerbations of illness.	Medium	Send A Summary of Care Request/ Accept Summary of Care Clinical Information Reconciliation
Population Management	Implementation of medication management practice improvements	Manage medications to maximize efficiency, effectiveness and safety that could include one or more of the following: - Reconcile and coordinate medications and provide medication management across transitions of care settings and eligible clinicians or groups; - Integrate a pharmacist into the care team; and/or - Conduct periodic, structured medication reviews.	Medium	Clinical Information Reconciliation Clinical Decision Support, Computerized Physician Order Entry Electronic Prescribing (CEHRT functions only)
Achieving Health Equity	Promote use of patient-reported outcome tools	Demonstrate performance of activities for employing patient-reported outcome (PRO) tools and corresponding collection of PRO data (e.g., use of PQH-2 or PHQ-9 and PROMIS instruments) such as patient reported Wound Quality of Life (QoL), patient reported Wound Outcome, and patient reported Nutritional Screening.	High	Public Health Registry Reporting Clinical Data Registry Reporting Patient-Generated Health Data

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Care Coordination	Practice Improvements that Engage Community Resources to Support Patient Health Goals	Develop pathways to neighborhood/community-based resources to support patient health goals that could include one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain formal (referral) links to community-based chronic disease self-management support programs, exercise programs and other wellness resources with the potential for bidirectional flow of information and provide a guide to available community resources. - Including through the use of tools that facilitate electronic communication between settings; - Screen patients for health-harming legal needs; - Screen and assess patients for social needs using tools that are CEHRT enabled and that include to any extent standards-based, coded question/field for the capture of data as is feasible and available as part of such tool; and/or - Provide a guide to available community resources. 	Medium	Send a Summary of Care Request/Accept Summary of Care Patient-Generated Health Data
Care Coordination	Primary Care Physician and Behavioral Health Bilateral Electronic Exchange of Information for Shared Patients	The primary care and behavioral health practices use the same CEHRT system for shared patients or have an established bidirectional flow of primary care and behavioral health records.	Medium	Send a Summary of Care Request/Accept Summary of Care
Care Coordination	PSH Care Coordination	Participation in a Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH) that provides a patient-centered, physician-led, interdisciplinary, and team-based system of coordinated patient care, which coordinates care from pre-procedure assessment through the acute care episode, recovery, and post-acute care. This activity allows for reporting of strategies and processes related to care coordination of patients receiving surgical or procedural care within a PSH. The clinician must perform one or more of the following care coordination activities:	Medium	Send a Summary of Care Request/Accept Summary of Care Clinical Information Reconciliation Health Information Exchange

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinate with care managers/navigators in preoperative clinic to plan and implementation comprehensive post discharge plan of care; - Deploy perioperative clinic and care processes to reduce post-operative visits to emergency rooms; - Implement evidence-informed practices and standardize care across the entire spectrum of surgical patients; or - Implement processes to ensure effective communications and education of patients' post-discharge instructions. 		
Care Coordination	Implementation or use of specialist reports back to referring clinician or group to close referral loop	Performance of regular practices that include providing specialist reports back to the referring MIPS eligible clinician or group to close the referral loop or where the referring MIPS eligible clinician or group initiates regular inquiries to specialist for specialist reports which could be documented or noted in the CEHRT.	Medium	Send A Summary of Care Request/Accept Summary of Care Clinical Information Reconciliation
Care Coordination	Implementation of documentation improvements for practice/process improvements	Implementation of practices/processes that document care coordination activities (e.g., a documented care coordination encounter that tracks all clinical staff involved and communications from date patient is scheduled for outpatient procedure through day of procedure).	Medium	Secure Messaging Send a Summary of Care Request/Accept Summary of Care Clinical Information Reconciliation
Care Coordination	Implementation of practices/processes for developing regular individual care plans	Implementation of practices/processes to develop regularly updated individual care plans for at-risk patients that are shared what the beneficiary or caregiver(s). Individual care plans should include consideration of a	Medium	Provide Patient Access (formerly Patient Access)

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		patient's goals and priorities, as well as desired outcomes of care.		View, Download, Transmit Secure Messaging Patient Generated Health Data or Data from Non-Clinical Setting
Care Coordination	Practice improvements for bilateral exchange of patient information	Ensure that there is bilateral exchange of necessary patient information to guide patient care that could include one or more of the following: - Participate in a Health Information Exchange if available" and/or - Use structured referral notes	Medium	Send A Summary of Care Request/ Accept Summary of Care Clinical Information Reconciliation
Beneficiary Engagement	Engage Patients and Families to Guide Improvement in the System of Care	Engage patients and families to guide improvement in the system of care by leveraging digital tools for ongoing guidance and assessments outside the encounter, including the collection and use of patient data for return-to-work and patient quality of life improvement. Platforms and devices that collect patient-generated health data (PGHD) must do so with an active feedback loop, either providing PGHD in real or near-real time to the care team, or generating clinically endorsed real or near-real time automated feedback to the patient. Includes patient reported outcomes (PROs).- Examples include patient engagement and outcomes tracking platforms, cellular or web-enabled bidirectional systems, and other devices that transmit clinically valid objective and subjective data back to care teams. Because many consumer-grade devices capture PGHD (for example, wellness devices), platforms or	High	Patient-Generated Health Data Provide Patient Access View, Download, or Transmit

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		devices eligible for this improvement activity must be, at a minimum, endorsed and offered clinically by care teams to patients to automatically send ongoing guidance (one way). Platforms and devices that additionally collect PGHD must do so with an active feedback loop, either providing PGHD in real or near-real time to the care team, or generating clinically endorsed real or near-real time automated feedback to the patient (e.g. automated patient-facing instructions based on glucometer readings). Therefore, unlike passive platforms or devices that may collect but do not transmit PGHD in real or near-real time to clinical care teams, active devices and platforms can inform the patient or the clinical care team in a timely manner of important parameters regarding a patient's status, adherence, comprehension, and indicators of clinical concern.		
Beneficiary Engagement	Use of CEHRT to capture patient reported outcomes	In support of improving patient access, performing additional activities that enable capture of patient reported outcomes (for example, home blood pressure, blood glucose logs, food diaries, at-risk health factors such as tobacco or alcohol use, etc.) or patient activation measures through use of CEHRT, containing this date in a separate queue for clinician recognition and review.	Medium	Provide Patient Access Patient-specific Education Care Coordination through Patient Engagement
Beneficiary Engagement	Engagement of patients through implementation	Access to an enhanced patient portal that provides up to date information related to relevant chronic disease health or blood pressure control, and includes interactive features allowing patients to enter health information and/or enables bidirectional communication about medication changes and adherence.	Medium	Provide Patient Access Patient-specific Education
Beneficiary Engagement	Engagement of patients, family and caregivers	Engage patients, family and caregivers in developing a plan of care and prioritizing their goals for action, documented in the CEHRT.	Medium	Provide Patient Access

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	in developing a plan of care			Patient-specific Education View, Download, Transmit (Patient Action) Secure Messaging
Patient Safety and Practice Assessment	Use of decision support and standardized treatment protocols	Use decision support and protocols to manage workflow in the team to meet patient needs.	Medium	Clinical Decision Support (CEHRT function only)
Behavioral and Mental Health	Implementation of integrated Patient Centered Behavioral Health (PCBH) model	Offer integrated behavioral health services to support patients with behavioral health needs, dementia, and poorly controlled chronic conditions that could include one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use evidence-based treatment protocols and treatment to goal where appropriate; - Use evidence-based screening and case finding strategies to identify individuals at risk and in need of services; - Ensure regular communication and coordinated workflows between eligible clinicians in primary care and behavioral health; - Conduct regular case reviews for at-risk or unstable patients and those who are not responding to treatment; - Use of a registry or certified health information technology functionality to support active care management and outreach to patients in treatment; and/or - Integrate behavioral health and medical care plans and facilitate integration through co-location of services when feasible. 	High	Provide Patient Access Patient-Specific Education View, Download, Transmit Secure Messaging Patient Generated Health Data or
Behavioral and Mental Health	Electronic Health Record Enhancements for BH data capture	Enhancements to CEHRT to capture additional data on behavioral health (BH) populations and use that data for additional decision-making purposes (for example, capture of	Medium	Patient Generated Health Data or Data from

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Activity	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight	Related PI Measure(s)
		additional BH data results in additional depression screening for at-risk patient not previously identified).		Non-clinical Setting Send A Summary of Care Request/ Accept Summary of Care Clinical Information Reconciliation