

Advancing Care Information and Improvement Activities Performance Categories

December 13, 2016



Major Topics Covered



The Merit-based Incentive Payment System at-a-glance



Overview of Advancing Care Information and Improvement Activities



What is the Merit-based Incentive Payment System?

Performance Categories









- Moves Medicare Part B clinicians to a performance-based payment system
- Provides clinicians with flexibility to choose the activities and measures that are most meaningful to their practice
- Reporting standards align with Advanced APMs wherever possible



What are the Performance Category Weights?

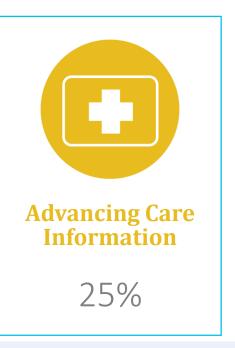
Weights assigned to each category based on a 1 to 100 point scale

Transition Year Weights









Note: These are default weights; the weights can be adjusted in certain circumstances



Eligible Clinicians:

 Medicare Part B clinicians billing more than \$30,000 a year AND providing care for more than 100 Medicare patients a year.

These clinicians include:

Physicians

Physician Assistants Nurse Practitioner Clinical Nurse Specialist Certified
Registered
Nurse
Anesthetists



Non-Patient Facing Clinicians

- Non-patient facing clinicians are eligible to participate in MIPS as long as they exceed the low-volume threshold, are not newly enrolled, and are not a qualifying APM participant (QP) or partial QP that elects not to report data to MIPS
- The non-patient facing MIPS-eligible clinician threshold for individual MIPS-eligible clinicians is \leq 100 patient facing encounters in a designated period
- A group is non-patient facing if > 75% of NPIs billing under the group's
 TIN during a performance period are labeled as non-patient facing
- There are special reporting requirements for non-patient facing clinicians



Who is excluded from MIPS?



Newly-enrolled in Medicare

 Enrolled in Medicare for the first time during the performance period (exempt until following performance year)

Clinicians who are:



Below the low-volume threshold

 Medicare Part B allowed charges less than or equal to \$30,000 a year

OR

See 100 or fewer
 Medicare Part B patients a year



Significantly participating in Advanced APMs

- Receive 25% of your Medicare payments
 OR
- See 20% of your Medicare patients through an Advanced APM



Pick Your Pace for Participation for the Transition Year

Participate in an Advanced Alternative Payment Model



Some practices may choose to participate in an Advanced Alternative Payment Model in 2017



Test

Submit Something

- Submit some data after January 1, 2017
- Neutral or small payment adjustment

MIPS

Partial Year



Submit a Partial Year

- Report for 90-day period after January 1, 2017
- Small positive payment adjustment

Full Year



Submit a Full Year

- Fully participate starting January 1, 2017
- Modest positive payment adjustment

Not participating in the Quality Payment Program for the Transition Year will result in a negative 4% payment adjustment.



MIPS: Choosing to Test for 2017



- Submit minimum amount of 2017 data to Medicare
- Avoid a downward adjustment

You Have Asked: "What is a minimum amount of data?"



<u>OR</u>



OR





MIPS: Partial Participation for 2017



- Submit 90 days of 2017 data to Medicare
- May earn a positive payment adjustment

"So what?" - If you're not ready on January 1, you can start anytime between January 1 and October 2





MIPS: Full Participation for 2017



- Submit a full year of 2017 data to Medicare
- May earn a positive payment adjustment
- Best way to earn largest payment adjustment is to submit data on all MIPS performance categories

Key Takeaway:

Positive adjustments are based on the performance data on the performance information submitted, not the **amount** of information or **length of time submitted**.



Individual vs. Group Reporting

OPTIONS



Individual

1. Individual—under an NPI number and TIN where they reassign benefits



Group

2. As a Group

- a) 2 or more clinicians (NPIs) who have reassigned their billing rights to a single TIN*
- b) As an APM Entity



Get your Data to CMS



Individual



Group

Qua	lity
-----	------

- ✓ QCDR (Qualified Clinical Data Registry)
- ✓ Qualified Registry
- ✓ FHR
- ✓ Claims

- ✓ QCDR (Qualified Clinical Data Registry)
- ✓ Qualified Registry
- ✓ EHR
- ✓ Administrative Claims
- ✓ CMS Web Interface (groups of 25 or more)
- ✓ CAHPS for MIPS Survey

Advancing Care

Information

- ✓ Attestation
- ✓ QCDR
- ✓ Qualified Registry
- ✓ EHR Vendor

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- ✓ EHR Vendor
- ✓ CMS Web Interface (groups of 25 or more)

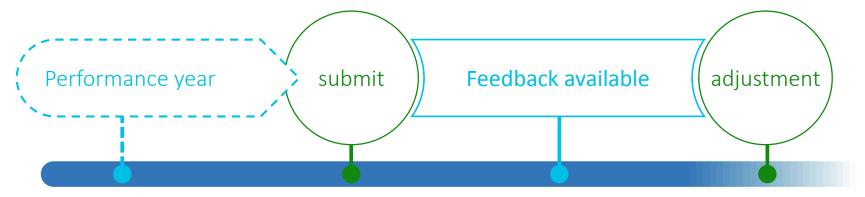
Improvement Activities

- ✓ Attestation
- ✓ QCDR
- ✓ Qualified Registry
- ✓ EHR Vendor

- ✓ Attestation
- ✓ QCDR
- ✓ Qualified Registry
- ✓ EHR Vendor



When Does the Merit-based Incentive Payment System Officially Begin?



2017 Performance Year

Performance: The first performance period opens January 1, 2017 and closes December 31, 2017. During 2017, you will record quality data and how you used technology to support your practice. If an Advanced APM fits your practice, then you can provide care during the year through that model.

March 31, 2018
Data Submission

Send in performance data: To potentially earn a positive payment adjustment under MIPS, send in data about the care you provided and how your practice used technology in 2017 to MIPS by the deadline, March 31, 2018. In order to earn the 5% incentive payment for participating in an Advanced APM, just send quality data through your Advanced APM.

Feedback

Feedback: Medicare gives you feedback about your performance after you send your data.

January 1, 2019
Payment Adjustment

Payment: You may earn a positive MIPS payment adjustment beginning January 1, 2019 if you submit 2017 data by March 31, 2018. If you participate in an Advanced APM in 2017, then you could earn 5% incentive payment in 2019.



Understanding Advancing Care Information and Improvement Activities Performance Categories







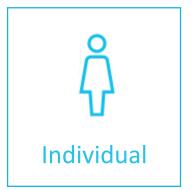
Advancing Care Information



Who can participate?







or



Optional for 2017



Hospital-based MIPS clinicians, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Clinical Nurse Specialists, CRNAs

Not Eligible



Facilities (i.e. Skilled Nursing facilities)



MIPS Performance Category: Advancing Care Information



- Promotes patient engagement and the electronic exchange of information using certified EHR technology
- Ends and replaces the Medicare EHR Incentive Program (also known as Medicare Meaningful Use)
- Greater flexibility in choosing measures
- In 2017, there are 2 measure sets for reporting based on EHR edition:

Advancing Care Information Objectives and Measures

2017 Advancing Care Information
Transition Objectives and
Measures



MIPS Performance Category: Advancing Care Information



Clinicians must use certified EHR technology to report

For those using EHR Technology Certified to the 2015 Edition:

Option 1

Advancing
Care
Information
Objectives and
Measures

Option 2

Combination of the two measure sets

For those using EHR Technology Certified to the 2014 Edition:

Option 1

2017
Advancing
Care
Information
Transition
Objectives and
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Option 2

Combination of the two measure sets



Advancing Care Information Requirements for the Transition Year





Test means...

- Submitting 4 or 5 base score measures
 - Depends on use of 2014 or 2015 Edition
- Reporting all required measures in the base score to earn any credit in the advancing care information performance category



Partial and full participation means...

 Submitting more than the base score in year 1

For a full list of measures, please visit qpp.cms.gov



MIPS Performance Category: Advancing Care Information



Advancing Care Information Objectives and Measures:

Base Score Required Measures

Objective	Measure
Protect Patient Health Information	Security Risk Analysis
Electronic Prescribing	e-Prescribing
Patient Electronic Access	Provide Patient Access
Health Information Exchange	Send a Summary of Care
Health Information Exchange	Request/Accept a Summary of Care

2017 Advancing Care Information Transition Objectives and Measures:

Base Score Required Measures

Objective	Measure
Protect Patient Health Information	Security Risk Analysis
Electronic Prescribing	e-Prescribing
Patient Electronic Access	Provide Patient Access
Health Information Exchange	Health Information Exchange



MIPS Performance Category: Advancing Care Information



Advancing Care Information Objectives and Measures:

Performance Score* Measures

Objective	Measure
Patient Electronic Access	Provide Patient Access*
Patient Electronic Access	Patient-Specific Education
Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement	View, Download and Transmit (VDT)
Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement	Secure Messaging
Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement	Patient-Generated Health Data
Health Information Exchange	Send a Summary of Care*
Health Information Exchange	Request/Accept a Summary of Care*
Health Information Exchange	Clinical Information Reconciliation
Public Health and Clinical Data Registry Reporting	Immunization Registry Reporting

2017 Advancing Care Information Transition Objectives and Measures

Performance Score Measures

Objective	Measure
Patient Electronic Access	Provide Patient Access*
Patient Electronic Access	View, Download and Transmit (VDT)
Patient-Specific Education	Patient-Specific Education
Secure Messaging	Secure Messaging
Health Information Exchange	Health Information Exchange*
Medication Reconciliation	Medication Reconciliation
Public Health Reporting	Immunization Registry Reporting



Advancing Care Information Bonus Score



5%
BONUS

for reporting on one or more of the following Public Health and Clinical Data Registry Reporting measures:

- Syndromic Surveillance Reporting
- Specialized Registry Reporting (14)
- Electronic Case Reporting (15)
- Public Health Registry Reporting (15)
- Clinical Data Registry Reporting(15)



for using **CEHRT** to report certain Improvement Activities



Improvement Activities Eligible for Advancing Care Information Bonus Score

Improvement Activity Performance Category Subcategory	Activity Name	Improvement Activity Performance Category Weight
Expanded Practice Access	Provide 24/7 access to eligible clinicians or groups who have real-time access to patient's medical record	High
Population Management	Anticoagulant management improvements	High
Population Management	Glycemic management services	High
Population Management	Chronic care and preventative care management for empanelled patients	Medium
Population Management	Implementation of methodologies for improvements in longitudinal care management for high risk patients	Medium
Population Management	Implementation of episodic care management practice improvements	Medium
Population Management	Implementation of medication management practice improvements	Medium
Care Coordination	Implementation of use of specialist reports back to referring clinician or group to close referral loop	Medium
Care Coordination	Implementation of documentation improvements for practice/process improvements	Medium
Care Coordination	Implementation of practices/processes for developing regular individual care plans	Medium
Care Coordination	Practice improvements for bilateral exchange of patient information	Medium
Beneficiary Engagement	Use of certified EHR to capture patient reported outcomes	Medium
Beneficiary Engagement	Engagement of patients through implementation of improvements in patient portal	Medium
Beneficiary Engagement	Engagement of patients, family and caregivers in developing a plan of care	Medium
Patient Safety and Practice Assessment	Use of decision support and standardized treatment protocols	Medium
Achieving Health Equity	Leveraging a QCDR to standardize processes for screening	Medium
Integrated Behavioral and Mental Health	Implementation of integrated PCBH model	High
Integrated Behavioral and Mental Health	Electronic Health Record Enhancements for BH data capture	Medium



Advancing Care Information: Flexibility



CMS will automatically reweight the Advancing Care Information performance category to zero for Hospital-based MIPS clinicians, clinicians who lack of Faceto-Face Patient Interaction, NP, PA, CRNAs and CNS

 Reporting is optional although if clinicians choose to report, they will be scored.

A clinician can apply to have their performance category score weighted to zero and the 25% will be assigned to the Quality category for the following reasons:

- Insufficient internet connectivity
- Extreme and uncontrollable circumstances
- Lack of control over the availability of CEHRT



Advancing Care Information: Flexibility





- Hospital-based MIPS eligible clinicians qualify for an automatic reweighting of the Advancing Care Information Performance category.
 - 75% or more of Medicare services performed in the inpatient, on campus outpatient department or emergency department
- CMS will reweight the category to 0 and assign the 25% to the quality performance category to offset the difference in the MIPS Final Score.
- If data is submitted, CMS will score their performance and weight their Advancing Care Information performance accordingly.



MIPS Scoring for Advancing Care Information (25% of Final Score)



Advancing Care Information Performance Category Score =

Base Score



Performance Score



Bonus Score



MIPS Performance Category: Improvement Activities



- Attest to participation in activities that improve clinical practice
 - Examples: Shared decision making, patient safety, coordinating care, increasing access
- Clinicians choose from 90+ activities under 9 subcategories:
 - 1. Expanded Practice Access
- 2. Population Management
- 3. Care Coordination

- 4. Beneficiary Engagement
- Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

6. Participation in an APM

- 7. Achieving Health Equity
- 8. Integrating Behavioral and Mental Health

9. Emergency Preparedness and Response



Improvement Activity Requirements for the Transition Year





Test means...

- Submitting 1 improvement activity
 - Activity can be high weight or medium weight





Submit a Partial Year

Submit a Full Year

Partial and full participation means...

- Choosing 1 of the following combinations:
 - 2 high-weighted activities
 - 1 high-weighted activity and2 medium-weighted activities
 - At least 4 medium-weighted activities



Improvement Activities: Flexibilities



Groups with 15 or fewer participants, non-patient facing clinicians, or if you are in a rural or health professional shortage area: Attest that you completed up to 2 activities for a minimum of 90 days.

Participants in certified patientcentered medical homes, comparable specialty practices, or an APM designated as a Medical Home Model: You will automatically earn full credit.

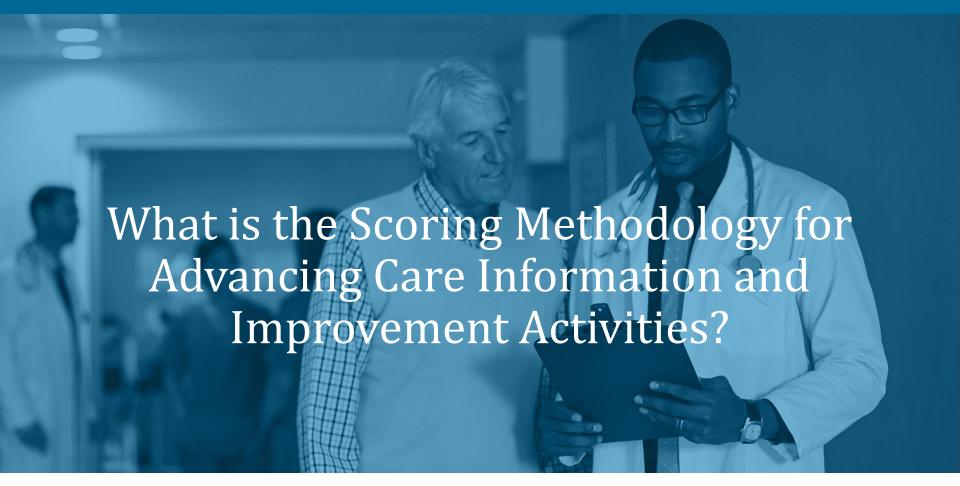
Shared Savings Program Track 1 or the Oncology Care Model: You will automatically receive points based on the requirements of participating in the APM. For all current APMs under the APM scoring standard, this assigned score will be full credit. For all future APMs under the APM scoring standard, the assigned score will be at least half credit.



Improvement Activities Study

- Beginning January 1, 2017 CMS will begin recruiting participants for a study aimed at reducing the burdens associated with data submission for quality measurement
- Participants will be selected based on the criteria laid out in the final QPP rule
- Each participating Clinician or Group will submit a minimum of three MIPS clinical quality measures relevant for their practice of which one of these measures must be an outcome measure or a high-value measure and one must be a crosscutting measure, as required by MACRA/MIPS
- Each participating Clinician or Group will also be expected to participate in survey questionnaires, focus groups and monthly calls with the project team
- Successful participation will result in a full 40 points towards the Clinician or Group's Improvement Activities Score
- The first round of the study will last for 1 year after which new participants will be recruited.







MIPS Scoring for Advancing Care Information (25% of Final Score): Base Score



Base score (worth 50%)

Clinicians must submit a numerator/denominator or Yes/No response for each of the following required measures:

Advancing Care Information Measures

- Security Risk Analysis
- e-Prescribing
- Provide Patient Access
- Send a Summary of Care
- Request/Accept a Summary of Care

2017 Advancing Care Information Transition Measures

- Security Risk Analysis
- e-Prescribing
- Provide Patient Access
- Health Information Exchange





Failure to meet reporting requirements will result in base score of zero, and an advancing care information performance score of zero.

MIPS Scoring for Advancing Care Information (25% of Final Score): Performance Score



Advancing	Care Inf	formatio	n Measures

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

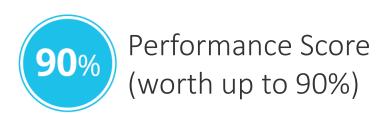
Advancing Care Information Transitional Measures

Measure	Performance
	Score
Provide Patient Access	Up to 20%
Health Information Exchange	Up to 20%
View, Download, or Transmit	Up to 10%
Patient-Specific Education	Up to 10%
Secure Messaging	Up to 10%
Medication Reconciliation	Up to 10%
Immunization Registry Reporting	0 or 10%



MIPS Scoring for Advancing Care Information (25% of Final Score): Performance Score





Report up to

9 Advancing Care Information measures

OR

Report up to

7 Advancing Care
Information
Transition
Measures

Each measure is worth 10-20%. The percentage score is based on the performance rate for each measure:

Performance Rate 1-10	1%
Performance Rate 11-20	2%
Performance Rate 21-30	3%
Performance Rate 31-40	4%
Performance Rate 41-50	5%
Performance Rate 51-60	6%
Performance Rate 61-70	7%
Performance Rate 71-80	8%
Performance Rate 81-90	9%
Performance Rate 91-100	10%



MIPS Scoring for Advancing Care Information (25% of Final Score): Bonus Score





for reporting on one or more of the following Public Health and Clinical Data Registry Reporting measures:

- Syndromic Surveillance Reporting
- Specialized Registry Reporting (14)
- Electronic Case Reporting (15)
- Public Health Registry Reporting (15)
- Clinical Data Registry Reporting(15)



for using **CEHRT** to report certain Improvement Activities

MIPS Performance Category: Advancing Care Information





PERFORMANCE SCORE

BONUS SCORE

FINAL

Account for



of the total **Advancing Care Information Performance**

Category Score

Account for up to



of the total **Advancing Care** Information **Performance** Category Score

Account for up to



of the total **Advancing Care** Information **Performance**

Category Score

SCORE

Earn 100 or more percent and receive

> FULL 25 points

of the total **Advancing Care** Information Performance Category Final Score

The overall Advancing Care Information score would be made up of a base score, a performance score, and a bonus score for a maximum score of 100 percentage points



MIPS Scoring for Improvement Activities (15% of Final Score in Transition Year)



Total points = 40

Activity Weights

- Medium = 10 points
- High = 20 points

Alternate Activity Weights*

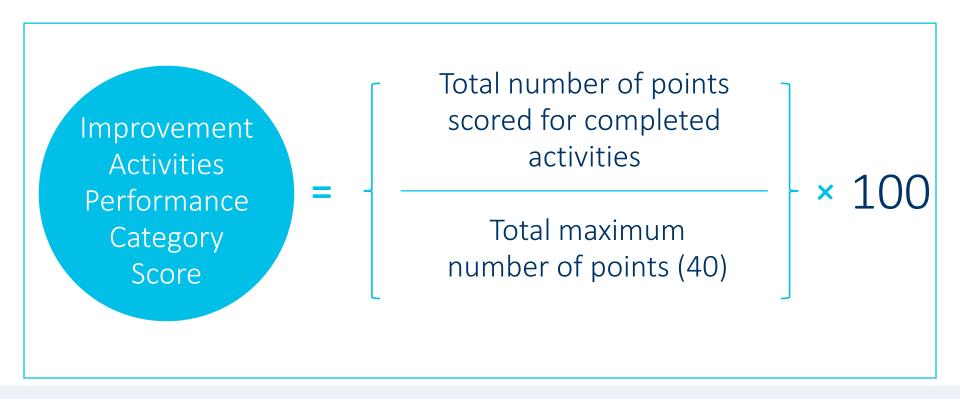
- Medium = 20 points
- High = 40 points

*For clinicians in small, rural, and underserved practices or with nonpatient facing clinicians or groups Full credit for clinicians in a patient-centered medical home, Medical Home Model, or similar specialty practice



MIPS Scoring for Improvement Activities (15% of Final Score in Transition Year)





Quick Tip: Maximum score cannot exceed 100%



Calculating the Final Score Under MIPS

Final Score =

Improvement Advancing Care Activities Information Clinician Quality Clinician Cost performance performance performance performance category score x category score x category score x category score x actual 100 actual Advancing actual Quality actual Cost **Improvement** performance performance Care Information **Activities** category weight category weight performance performance category weight category weight







Building on a User Centric Approach

We are committed to building on our lessons learned and stakeholder feedback to continuously improve the program. Here are some opportunities to get involved:



Performance feedback.

We are planning to work with stakeholders to determine a new look and feel for the 2018 performance feedback. If you are interested in providing suggested ideas, then please send your thoughts to Partnership@cms.hhs.gov



Implementation of virtual groups.

Details coming soon



CMS is Currently Seeking Formal Comment on..



• <u>Virtual Groups</u>: Overall Implementation



Non-Patient-Facing: Alternative terminology that could be used to reference such clinicians.



Low-Volume Threshold: Approaches for Clinicians that do not meet the threshold to opt-in.



<u>Groups</u>: Approaches for groups with eligible clinicians and non-eligible clinicians such as therapists and new Medicare-enrolled clinicians to participate



• Quality Performance Category: cross-cutting measure requirement for future years



 Advancing Care Information Performance Category: Improvement activities bonus in ACI; future measures



MIPS Scoring:

- Approaches for Non-scoreable measures (measures that are below the case min, lack a benchmark or don't meet data complete quality measure benchmark based on specialty and/or practice size
- Scoring approach for less criteria) in future years.
- Stratifying the Year 2





When and where do I submit comments?

- Submit comments referring to file code CMS-5517-FC by December 19, 2016
- Comments must be submitted in one of the following ways:
 - Electronically through Regulations.gov
 - By regular mail
 - By express or overnight mail
 - By hand or courier
- **Note:** Final Rule with comment includes changes not reviewed in this presentation. Presentation feedback not considered formal comments on the rule.

For additional information, please go to: **QPP.CMS.GOV**





Where can I go to learn more?



Technical Assistance

CMS has organizations on the ground to provide help to clinicians who are eligible for the Quality Payment Program:



Quality Payment Program Portal

• Learn about the Quality Payment Program, explore the measures, and find educational tools and resources.



Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI):

• Designed to support more than 140,000 clinician practices over the next 4 years in sharing, adapting, and further developing their comprehensive quality improvement strategies.



Quality Innovation Network (QIN)-Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs):

- Includes 14 QIN-QIOs
- Promotes data-driven initiatives that increase patient safety, make communities healthier, better coordinate post-hospital care, and improve clinical quality.



The <u>Innovation Center's</u> Learning Systems provides specialized information on:

- Successful Advanced APM participation
- The benefits of APM participation under MIPS



Do you need technical assistance to help you participate in the Quality Payment Program? The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has specialized programs and resources for eligible clinicians across the country.

PRIMARY CARE & SPECIALIST PHYSICIANS

Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative

- Supports more than 140,000 clinician practices through active, collaborative and peer-based learning networks over 4 years.
- Practice Transformation Networks (PTNs) and Support Alignment Networks (SANs) are located in all 50 states to provide comprehensive technical assistance, as well as tools, data, and resources to improve quality of care and reduce costs.
- The goal is to help practices transform over time and move toward Advanced Alternative Payment Models.



Locate the PTN(s) and SAN(s) in your state

LARGE PRACTICES

Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organizations (QIN-QIO) Education and Support

- Supports clinicians in large practices (more than 15 clinicians) in meeting Merit- Based Incentive Payment System requirements through customized technical assistance.
- Includes one-on-one assistance when needed.
- There are 14 QIN-QIOs that serve all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands.



Locate the QIN-QIO that serves your state

Quality Innovation Network (QIN) Directory

SMALL & SOLO PRACTICES

Small, Underserved Rural Support Technical Assistance

- Provides outreach, guidance, and direct technical assistance to clinicians in solo
 or small practices (15 or fewer), particularly those in rural and underserved areas,
 to promote successful health IT adoption, optimization, and delivery system
 reform activities.
 - Assistance will be tailored to the needs of the clinicians.
 - Organizations selected to provide this technical assistance will be available in late 2016.



All Eligible Clinicians Are Supported By:



Quality Payment Program Website: qpp.cms.gov
Serves as a starting point for information on the Quality Payment Program.



Quality Payment Program Service CenterAssists with all Quality Payment Program questions.
1-866-288-8292 TTY: 1-877-715-6222 OPP@cms.hhs.gov



Advanced Alternative Payment Model (APM) Learning Networks Helps clinicians share best practices for success, and move through stages of transformation to successful participation in APMs.



Q&A Session Information

- All questions will be taken through the Q&A box.
- The questions and answers will be read aloud for everyone to hear.
- The speakers will get through as many questions as time allows.
- If your question is not answered during the webinar, please contact the Quality Payment Program Service Center: QPP@cms.hhs.gov.





