

MACRA and Delivery System Reform National Quality Forum Annual Conference



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Delivery System Reform requires focusing on the way we pay providers, deliver care, and distribute information

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Source: Burwell SM. Setting Value-Based Payment Goals – HHS Efforts to Improve U.S. Health Care. NEJM 2015 Jan 26; published online first.

Target percentage of payments in 'FFS linked to quality' and 'alternative payment models' by 2016 and 2018







What does it mean for you?

THE MEDICARE ACCESS & CHIP REAUTHORIZATION ACT

OF 2015



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What is "MACRA"?



What is "MACRA"?

MACRA stands for the **Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015**, bipartisan legislation signed into law on April 16, 2015.

What does it do?

- **Repeals** the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) Formula
- Changes the way that Medicare pays clinicians and establishes a new framework to reward clinicians for value over volume
- **Streamlines** multiple quality reporting programs into 1 new system (MIPS)
- Provides bonus payments for participation in *eligible* alternative payment models (APMs)



What does MACRA address?





Medicare Payment Prior to MACRA

Fee-for-service (FFS) payment system, where clinicians are paid based on **volume** of services, not **value.**

The Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR)



Each year, Congress passed temporary **"doc fixes"** to avert cuts (no fix in 2015 would have meant a **21% cut** in Medicare payments to clinicians)

MACRA replaces the SGR with a more predictable payment method that incentivizes value.



Medicare Reporting Prior to MACRA

Currently there are **multiple quality and value reporting programs** for Medicare clinicians:

Physician Quality Reporting Program (PQRS)

Value-Based Payment Modifier Medicare Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program



Medicare Reporting Prior to MACRA

MACRA streamlines these programs into MIPS.





Which clinicians does MACRA affect? (Will it affect me?)



Short answer: MACRA affects clinicians who participate in Medicare Part B.



Are there any exceptions to participation in MIPS?

There are **3 groups** of clinicians who will NOT be subject to MIPS:



Note: MIPS does not apply to hospitals or facilities

How will MACRA affect Medicare clinicians?

MACRA changes how Medicare pays clinicians.

The **current** system:



MACRA changes how Medicare pays clinicians.

The system after **MACRA**:



*Or special lump sum bonuses through participation in eligible Alternative Payment Models



How much can MIPS adjust payments?

Based on a composite performance score, clinicians will receive +/- or neutral adjustments <u>up to</u> the percentages below.





How much can MIPS adjust payments?

Note: MIPS will be a **budget-neutral** program. Total upward and downward adjustments will be balanced so that the average change is 0%.

























What is a Medicare Alternative Payment Model (APM)?

APMs are **new approaches to paying** for medical care through Medicare that **incentivize quality and value.**

As defined by MACRA, **APMs** – include:

- CMS Innovation Center model (under section 1115A, other than a Health Care Innovation Award)
- ✓ MSSP (Medicare Shared Savings Program)
- ✓ Demonstration under the Health Care Quality Demonstration Program
- ✓ **Demonstration** required by federal law

"Eligible" APMs are the most advanced APMs.



As defined by MACRA, eligible APMs **must meet the following criteria**:

- Base payment on quality measures comparable to those in MIPS
- Require use of certified EHR technology
- Either (1) bear more than nominal financial risk for monetary losses OR (2)be a medical home model expanded under CMMI authority



















How do I become a qualifying APM participant (**QP**)?





Note: Most practitioners will be subject to MIPS.



TAKE-AWAY POINTS

 MACRA changes the way Medicare pays clinicians and offers financial incentives for providing high value care.
 Medicare Part B clinicians will participate in the MIPS program, unless they are in their 1st year of Part B participation, meet criteria for participation in certain APMs, or have a low volume of patients.
 Payment adjustments and bonuses will begin in 2019.
 A proposed rule is targeted for spring 2016, with the final rule targeted for fall 2016.

Other than payment adjustments, what else does MACRA change?



MACRA supports care delivery and promotes innovation.

Several examples:

1 Allocates **\$20 million / yr.** from 2016-2020 to **small practices** to provide **technical assistance** regarding MIPS performance criteria or transitioning to an APM.

Creates an advisory committee to help promote development of
 Physician-Focused Payment Models

Independent PFPM Technical Advisory Committee



Review proposals, submit recommendations to HHS Secretary



The big picture: how does MACRA relate to broader health care delivery system reform?





Target % of Medicare payments tied to quality or value in 2016 and 2018



All Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) payments (Categories 1-4)
Medicare FFS payments linked to quality and value (Categories 2-4)
Medicare payments linked to quality and value via APMs (Categories 3-4)

MACRA moves us closer to meeting these goals...





All Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) payments (Categories 1-4)
Medicare FFS payments linked to quality and value (Categories 2-4)
Medicare payments linked to quality and value via APMs (Categories 3-4)
Medicare payments to those in the most highly advanced APMs under MACRA ("eligible APMs")



...and toward transforming our health care system.

3 goals for our health care system:

BETTER care SMARTER spending HEALTHIER people

We look forward to **working together** to achieve these **shared goals**.



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