



QPP Resource Center: MACRA Minute



December 2018

Happy Holidays! We hope you enjoy time with family and friends this season.

Please reach out to us if you have any questions on submitting 2018 data or changes to the program for 2019.

- Phone: 844-358-4021 Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. CST
- Email: qpp-surs@telligen.com
- Web: www.telligenqpp.com

To compare Year 2 and Year 3 requirements side by side, visit:

[QPP Year 2 vs Year 3 Requirements](#)

Upcoming Webinars: Mark Your Calendar

Telligen will host a webinar about Year 3 changes to QPP on December 18 from 12 -1 p.m. CST.

New: Resources for Eligible Clinicians

For the 2019 performance year, CMS added six new clinician types to the Quality Payment Program. To help clinicians navigate through their first year, we've developed the following specialty fact sheets.

- [Speech Pathologist](#)
- [Audiologist](#)
- [Dietitians or Nutritional Professional](#)
- [Occupational Therapist](#)
- [Physical Therapist](#)
- [Psychologist](#)

New: Changes to MIPS Eligibility Status

CMS is asking clinicians to take a few minutes to review their eligibility status for the 2018 MIPS program.

CMS conducted an initial review of Medicare Part B claims from 9/1/16 to 8/31/17 and updated clinicians' status based on a second review from 9/1/17 to 8/31/18.

Your Status May Have Changed

We encourage Telligent QPP-SURS clients to use the [QPP Participation Status Tool](#) to confirm their final 2018 MIPS eligibility.

New: View Physician Compare Data Before it's Posted

The Physician Compare 30-day preview period is officially open for clinicians and practices wanting to preview 2017 QPP performance information before the information is public and downloadable.

Access the secured preview by logging into the [QPP website](#) using your EIDM credentials. The 30-day preview period closes **December 31, 2018** at 8 p.m. ET.

For additional information, refer to the following resources.

- [Physician Compare Preview Period User Guide](#)
- [Physician Compare Initiative Page](#)

For assistance accessing the website or obtaining your EIDM user role, contact the QPP service center at QPP@cms.hhs.gov

The deadline to submit a QPP [Hardship Exception Application](#) for the PI performance category is **December 31, 2018**. Approved clinicians will be exempt from reporting for the Promoting Interoperability category, and will have the Quality category reweighted to 75 percent.

Reasons for submitting an application include:

- Small practice clinicians (15 or fewer)
- Using decertified EHR technology
- Insufficient Internet connectivity
- Extreme and uncontrollable circumstances
- Lack of control over the availability of CEHRT

Answers to common questions can be found on the [Hardship Exception FAQ](#)

Reminder: Final Rule

The Final Rule for the Quality Payment Program was released on November 1.

Key Changes for 2019 Include:

- Addition of six new clinician types
- A third criteria of the low-volume threshold
- Ability to opt-in to MIPS if you exceed at least one of the low volume thresholds
- New category weights for quality and cost
- Overhaul of the Promoting Interoperability category
- Addition of facility-based scoring for those who qualify

For more information, refer to the [Final Rule Fact Sheet](#), or attend our December 18 webinar: [A Closer Look at the Performance Requirements for 2019.](#)

New Resource: Nebraska QPP Coalition

The Nebraska QPP Coalition was recently formed to help Nebraska clinicians thrive in a patient-centric, value-based payment environment.

The coalition meets regularly to identify ways to work together to provide technical assistance, including: access to subject-matter experts, webinars, newsletters, conferences, events, website resources, public speaking, virtual or onsite one-on-one assistance.

A list of Nebraska QPP Coalition Partners is available [here](#).

Feel free to reach out to any of these organizations with QPP-related questions or [contact us](#) to identify which organization can best assist you.

NE QPP Coalition Goals:

1. Align strategy and metrics to eliminate market confusion and create synergy
2. Promote efficient resource use and reduce duplication of efforts
3. Engage and equip clinicians with sustainable transformative skill sets

New Resources: Available on qpp.cms.gov

Below are links to resources added or updated in November on qpp.cms.gov.

- [2018 Cost 101 Guide](#) 11/21
- [2018 Improvement Activity 101 Guide](#) 11/21
- [2018 Promoting Interoperability Factsheet](#) 11/21
- [2018 Promoting Interoperability 101 Guide](#) 11/21
- [2018 Cost Factsheet](#) 11/21
- [2018 Quality 101 Guide](#) 11/21
- [2018 PI Information Blocking Factsheet](#) 11/15
- [2019 PI Information Blocking Factsheet](#) 11/15

MIPS Tip: Quality Measure 110



With flu season in full force, many patients are coming in for their flu vaccines. If you administer or verify receipt of flu vaccines, remember you're eligible to report on Quality Measure 110.

This material was prepared by Telligen QPP-SURS Resource Center, the Quality Payment Program for Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. HHSM-500-2017-00012C.

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