



CMS Education Resource Messages Received March 21, 2012

- [National Provider Call: Medicare & Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Basics for Eligible Professionals – Registration Now Open, Thursday, March 29; 3-4:30 p.m. ET.](#)
- [Take a Look at New EHR Testimonial Videos from the 2011 AOA Conference.](#)
- [Video Stream Broadcast: Launch of Initiative to Improve Behavioral Health and Reduce Use of Antipsychotic Medications in Nursing Home Residents, premieres Thursday, March 29, 1-2 p.m. ET.](#)
- [March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month - Encourage Your Patients to Get Screened.](#)

★ Message 201203-45

National Provider Call: Medicare & Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Basics for Eligible Professionals – Registration Now Open, Thursday, March 29; 3-4:30 p.m. ET - As of Tue Jan 31, more than \$3.2 billion in Medicare and Medicaid electronic health record (EHR) incentive payments have been made; more than 191,000 eligible professionals, eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals are actively registered. Learn if you are eligible and, if so, what you need to do to earn an incentive. This session will inform individual practitioners about the basics of the Medicare & Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. *Remember: This is the last year that eligible professionals can participate in Medicare and get the maximum incentive payment.*

Target Audience: Eligible Professionals (EPs), which include Doctors of Medicine or Osteopathy, Doctors of Dental Surgery or Dental Medicine, Doctors of Podiatric Medicine, Doctors of Optometry, Chiropractors, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives, and Physician Assistants (PA) who practice at an FQHC/RHC led by a PA. (Note that hospital-based EP's may not participate; an EP is considered hospital-based if 90% or more of the EP's services are performed in a hospital inpatient or emergency room setting.) Medicaid eligible professionals must meet patient-volume criteria, providing services to those attributable to Medicaid or, in some cases, needy individuals.)

Agenda:

- Are you eligible?
- How much are the incentives and how are they calculated?
- How do you get started?
- What are major milestones regarding participation and payment?
- How do you report on meaningful use?
- Where can you find helpful resources?
- Question and Answer Session.

Registration Information: In order to receive call-in information, you must register for the call at <http://www.eventsvc.com/blhtechnologies>. Registration will close at 12pm on the day of the call or when available space has been filled; no exceptions will be made, so please register early.

Presentation: The presentation for this call will be posted at least one day beforehand at <http://www.CMS.gov/NPC/Calls>. In addition, the presentation will be emailed to all registrants on the day of the call. For more information about the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive programs, visit <http://www.CMS.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms>.

To learn more about CMS National Provider Calls, visit <http://www.CMS.gov/NPC>. This website includes a list of upcoming and past National Provider Calls and call materials (slide presentations, written transcripts, audio files, podcasts, and video slideshow presentations on the [CMS YouTube Channel](#)). Bookmark this site for newly-listed National Provider Calls and related call materials.

★ Message 201203-46

Take a Look at New EHR Testimonial Videos from the 2011 AOA Conference - CMS has posted a series of new videos about the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs to the [CMS YouTube channel](#). At the 2011 American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Conference, CMS filmed seven conference attendees who provided their stories about EHRs and the EHR Incentive Programs. In the series, the testimonial videos discuss topics such as benefits of EHRs and navigating the Incentive Programs.

Also take a look at CMS's additional EHR videos on the [CMS YouTube channel](#), including additional provider testimonials and EHR incentive payment highlights.

Want more information about the EHR Incentive Programs? Make sure to visit the [EHR Incentive Programs website](#) for the latest news and updates on the EHR Incentive Programs.

★ Message 201203-47

Video Stream Broadcast: Launch of Initiative to Improve Behavioral Health and Reduce Use of Antipsychotic Medications in Nursing Home Residents, premieres Thursday, March 29, 1-2 p.m. ET - On Thu Mar 29, CMS will launch a new initiative aimed at improving behavioral health and safeguarding nursing home residents from unnecessary antipsychotic drug use. As part of the initiative, CMS is developing a national action plan that will use a multidimensional approach including public reporting, raising public awareness, regulatory oversight, technical assistance/training, and research. The action plan will be targeted at enhancing person-centered care for nursing home residents, particularly those with dementia-related behaviors.

Join Patrick Conway (MD, MSc, Chief Medical Officer for CMS and Director of the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality), Shari Ling (MD, CMS, Deputy Chief Medical Officer serving in the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality), and Alice Bonner (PhD, RN, Director for the Division of Nursing Homes in the Office for Clinical Standards and Quality) in the overview of this national initiative and resources for technical assistance, discussion of behavioral health opportunities, and plans for upcoming training sessions. Handouts for the broadcast are available at <http://surveyortraining.CMS.hhs.gov>.

Target Audience: State Survey Agencies, residents and family members, nursing home staff, clinicians, providers, advocates, CMS Regional Offices, and others

Registration and Viewing Instructions: Can be found at <http://surveyortraining.CMS.hhs.gov>. The program will continue to be available for viewing for up to one year following Thu Mar 29.

★ Message 201203-48

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month - Encourage Your Patients to Get Screened - Studies have repeatedly demonstrated that a physician's recommendation is the most powerful factor in a patient's decision to receive preventive and screening services. March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month; encourage your patients age 50 and older to get screened.

Resources to Support Decision-Making:

Cancer screening decisions, like other medical decisions, require weighing the harms and benefits, especially among chronically-ill patients. These persons may be at risk for adverse screening outcomes or have a life expectancy that is shorter than any survival benefit from cancer screening. In addition, patient preferences and values must be considered in decisions regarding screening and what test is most appropriate. Several articles shed some light on these issues:

- Walters LC, Covinsky KE. Cancer screening in elderly patients: a framework for individualized decision-making. *JAMA*. 2001, Jun 6; 285(21):2750-6.
- Walters LC, Lewis CL, Barton MB. Screening for colorectal, breast, and cervical cancer in the elderly: a review of the evidence. *Am J Med*. 2005, Oct; 118(10):1078-86.

The American Cancer Society has developed materials to help support practitioners in discussing colorectal cancer screening with their patients. These resources include reminder letters, phone reminder scripts, brochures, and wall charts, and [are available for download or order](#).

The National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable has also published a report that describes the components of a quality screening colonoscopy referral system in primary care practice:

- Sifri R, Wender R, Lieberman D, Potter M, Peterson K, Smith R. "[Developing a Quality Screening Colonoscopy Referral System in Primary Care Practice: A Report from the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable](#)". *CA Cancer J Clin* 2010; 60; 40-49; originally published online Dec 18, 2009.

What Can You Do?

Discussing colorectal cancer screening and the various options available can be challenging, especially with older, chronically-ill patients. Engage patients in decision-making regarding their options, as it is important for promoting appropriate screening among older adults. Colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and beatable. Encourage your patients to get screened – it could save their lives.

More Information for Healthcare Providers:

- [MLN Guide to Medicare Preventive Services for Healthcare Professionals](#) (see Chapter 11)
- [MLN Preventive Services Educational Products webpage](#)
- [MLN Cancer Screenings brochure](#)
- [MLN Quick Reference Information: Medicare Preventive Services](#)
- [National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable](#)
- [National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month website](#)
- [The National Cancer Institute website](#)

CMS.gov Website Upgrade – Please take note that CMS is in the process of making upgrades to the www.CMS.gov website. If you encounter problems accessing information while on the site, please refresh the page or check back later. We appreciate your understanding and apologize for any inconvenience.