



☺ *Sappy New Year* ☺

On behalf of the Bureau of TennCare, we hoped everyone had a great holiday season. Now, it's back to work. This is just a short reminder of two items.

Deadline for 2013 Attestations

One question we are already being asked is what the deadline is for 2013 attestations for EPs, using 2012 patient encounters. (Remember, patient encounters always come from the previous calendar year.) EPs have until **March 31, 2014** to submit 2013 TennCare EHR Provider Incentive attestations. This is regardless of whether you are applying for the first year AIU payment or the subsequent MU attestations. For those applying for MU, while your patient encounters come from 2012, your MU data must come from 2013.

Unfortunately, for EHs the 2013 deadline was December 31, 2013. If you submitted your attestation prior to that date, we will process it as soon as possible.

2014 Attestations

CMS is allowing all providers to use a 90-day attestation period for 2014 regardless of where you are in the EHR Provider Incentive Program. That is, if you are in the first or second year of Stage 1 MU attestation, you only have to submit 90 days of 2014 MU data. (Previously the requirement was that you have one year of MU data before filing.) So, as an **EP** if you are using your certified EHR system on January 1, 2014, the **EARLIEST** you can submit your 2014 attestation (using patient encounters from 2013, and MU data from 2014) is April 1, 2014.

For **Eligible Hospitals**, your attestation period is based on the federal fiscal year; and you **MUST** attest through Medicare first.

EPs should also note that this is the year you **MUST** be approved as a meaningful user of a certified EHR system in order to avoid the 2015 **MediCARE** reimbursement reductions. These reductions go into effect January 1, 2015. If you are attesting for the first time, you can now attest for MU in order to avoid these payment reductions. On the Provider Questions screen, you have the option to tell us if you are attesting for AIU or MU. CMS will begin reviewing data from states during the fourth quarter (October – December) of 2014 to determine whether providers are meaningful users.

Generally speaking, the Medicare payment reductions would **not** apply to pediatricians, OB-GYNS, or dentists as their services are not normally covered by Medicare.

If you have questions about this, please contact us.



Contact Information

As always, anytime you have a question or need assistance, please feel free to contact us. We will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Please be sure to include the provider's name and NPI when contacting us.

- ◆ For questions relating to **Meaningful Use (MU)**, send an email to EHRMeaningfuluse.TennCare@tn.gov
- ◆ For **all other questions**, send an email to TennCare.EHRIncentive@tn.gov
- ◆ The **CMS Help Desk** can be reached at 1-888-734-6433.
- ◆ **TennCare Medicaid EHR Incentive Program web site:** http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/ehr_intro.shtml
- ◆ **PowerPoint Presentations** on different subject areas are available here: http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/ehr_page6.shtml

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