

## 2015 - 2017 Program Requirements

- All providers are required to attest to a single set of objectives and measures (Modified Stage 2). This replaces the core and menu objectives structure of previous stages.
- For EPs, there are 10 objectives, including one consolidated public health reporting objective.
- In 2015, all providers must attest to objectives and measures using EHR technology certified to the 2014 Edition.
- To assist providers who may have already started working on meaningful use in 2015, there are alternate exclusions and specifications within individual objectives for providers. These include:
  - Allowing providers who were previously scheduled to be in a Stage 1 EHR reporting period for 2015 to use a lower threshold for certain measures.
  - Allowing providers to exclude for Stage 2 measures in 2015 for which there is no Stage 1 equivalent.
  - Allowing providers to exclude Modified Stage 2 measures in 2015 where a previous menu measure is now a requirement.

## Specific Changes to Objectives and Measures

**Stage 2 Patient Electronic Access, Measure 2:** Instead of the 5 percent threshold, this measure requires that at least one patient seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period (or patient authorized representative) views online, downloads or transmits to a third party their health information.

**Stage 2 Secure Electronic Messaging:** The 5 percent threshold has been changed to the capability for patients to send and receive a secure electronic message with the EP was fully enabled during the EHR reporting period (yes/no).

**Public Health Reporting:** The public health reporting objectives have been consolidated into one objective with three measure options for EPs.

*See Appendix A for a complete list of objectives, measures, and alternate exclusions and specifications.*

## EHR Reporting Period

- Starting in 2015, the EHR reporting period for all providers will be based on the **calendar year**.
- In 2015 only, the EHR reporting period for all providers will be **any continuous 90-day period**.
- EPs may select an EHR reporting period of any continuous 90-day period from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

## Payment Adjustments & Attestation Deadlines

- For an EHR reporting period in 2015, all Medicare providers must attest by February 29, 2016.
- Despite the change to a 90-day EHR reporting period in 2015, providers will not be able to attest to meaningful use for an EHR reporting period in 2015 prior to January 4, 2016.
- In CY 2015, the EHR reporting period for a payment adjustment year for EPs who have not successfully demonstrated meaningful use in a prior year (new participants) is any continuous 90-day period in calendar year (CY) 2015. New participants who successfully demonstrate meaningful use for this period and satisfy all other program requirements will avoid the payment adjustments in CYs 2016 and 2017 if the EP successfully attests by February 29, 2016.
- In CY 2015, the EHR reporting period for a payment adjustment year for EPs who have successfully demonstrated meaningful use in a prior year (returning participants) is any continuous 90-day period in CY 2015. Returning participants who successfully demonstrate meaningful use for this period and satisfy all other program requirements will avoid the payment adjustment in CY 2017 if the EP successfully attests by February 29, 2016.