



NEO HealthConnect Answers

July 2011

Successful Attestations Contribute More Than \$400,000 To Local Community

We are pleased to announce that, since the April 18th opening of the Medicare attestation site, 20 primary care providers across Mahoning and Trumbull counties have successfully attested to Meaningful Use requirements and have received incentive payments.

Additionally, with the opening of Ohio's Medicaid provider attestation site in June, three of our local providers have received incentive payments through that program.

The combined incentives have added over \$400,000 to our local economy. That's great news!

If your practice has not begun the EHR adoption process, or if you need assistance with Meaningful Use requirements, please call NEO HealthConnect. We are here to help.

Medicaid Patient Population Calculation Example

To determine eligibility for incentives under the Ohio Medicaid program, an accurate calculation must be made using the Medicaid patient population of a practice and the SCHIP adjustment. During a recent question and answer session, a representative of Ohio Medicaid gave the following example to use for the calculation.

The statewide average for the SCHIP adjustment is 2%. Only Allen, Athens, Lucas, Pike, Ross and Scioto counties have an adjustment of 1%.

A practice would examine its data and determine the patient volume percentage using the Medicaid encounters divided by the total encounters. The SCHIP adjustment would be applied to the Medicaid encounters. Therefore, if the practice had 150 Medicaid encounters and 410 total encounters, the Medicaid encounters after the SCHIP adjustment would be 147 (150 - 2%).

147 adjusted Medicaid encounters divided by 410 total encounters = 36% Medicaid encounters.

The practice meets the 30% minimum Medicaid patient volume requirement.

Medscape Modules are Available on the CMS EHR Incentive Programs

CMS has announced that, through Medscape Education, physicians now have the opportunity to achieve CME credits by learning more about the Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Programs.

On Medscape's EHR Learning Center [website](#), leading physician experts in medical informatics provide information, resources, and tools to help providers determine eligibility for the EHR Incentive Programs, understand the requirements for participating, take steps to participate, and recognize the immediate benefits of participation and future consequences of not participating.

By completing the module [From Meaningful Use to Meaningful Care](#), providers can earn CME credit while gaining a better understanding about the purpose of the EHR

Incentive Programs, the stages of meaningful use, a timeline of key dates, and most importantly, how patients will benefit.

Providers can also use the Medscape Learning Center to determine their comprehension of the EHR Incentive Programs by taking the Participant Self Assessment: [Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentives: What Do You Know and Do You Know Enough?](#) By completing the assessment, providers can help to shape the content of future CME activities to best address the educational and clinical performance gaps identified.

The site also offers interviews, where physician EHR experts explain why it's important to register for the programs and the significance of EHRs to health care overall. Expert interviews include:

- [Registering for the EHR Incentive Program -- Ready, Set, Go: An Expert Interview With Jason M. Mitchell, MD, and Richard Paula, MD](#)
- [Are You an Eligible Professional Who Hasn't Registered for the EHR Incentive Program? What Are You Waiting For? -- An Expert Interview With William F. Bria II, MD](#)

ICD-10 Provider Call Materials Now Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has released four podcasts and a video slideshow presentation from the May 18, 2011 national provider call on "CMS ICD-10 Conversion Activities, Including a Lab Case Study."

Did you miss the May 18th ICD-10 national provider call? The entire presentation is now available on the CMS YouTube Channel ([CMS YouTube](#)) as a video slideshow that includes the call audio and captioning.

Limited on time? Podcasts are perfect for the office, in the car, or anywhere you carry a portable media player or Smartphone. Audio from this presentation is split into the following four podcasts:

Podcast 1 of 4: Welcome and ICD-10 Overview Podcast 2 of 4: Case Study on Translating the Lab NCDs Podcast 3 of 4: ICD-10 Updates from CMS Subject Matter Experts Podcast 4 of 4: Question and Answer Session

The podcasts, slideshow presentation, and written transcripts can be found on the Teleconferences page of the CMS ICD-10 website ([CMS ICD-10 Teleconferences](#)).

The four audio podcasts with corresponding written transcripts, as well as the full written transcript of the call can be accessed by scrolling to the "Downloads" section at the bottom of the page. To access the video slideshow presentation, select the link in the "Related Links Outside CMS" section of the webpage.

Free REC Services Update

As of July 18, NEO HealthConnect has only 82 slots remaining for free REC Services. A number of those positions have been committed to practices and contracts will be finalized shortly.

Referrals

Are you aware of any colleagues who might need our services as they explore the adoption of electronic health records? Do you know of a practice that is live on a system, but would like assistance in meeting Meaningful Use? Please feel free to contact us with the referral, or pass along our contact information to your associate.

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