

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Electronic Health Records (EHR) Demonstration Project

As you may know, Oklahoma was selected as one of 12 sites to be a part of a five year Medicare Electronic Health Records demonstration project. Oklahoma is in tier two of the project and recruitment of physician practices will begin in the fall of 2009. To find out more information regarding eligibility and practice requirements, please see the fact sheet below. You can download a copy of this fact sheet from OSMA's website at OKMED.org.

A National Medicare demonstration project that provides incentive payments to primary care practices for using certified electronic health records to improve the quality of patient care

Who is eligible to participate?

- Small to medium-sized primary care practices (20 or less)

Primary care is defined as family/general practice, internal medicine, or geriatrics. Advanced Practice Nurses and Physicians Assistants who provide primary care and bill Medicare independently may be eligible for the demonstration.

Practice Requirements

- Practices must have a minimum of 50 "fee for service" Medicare beneficiaries for which they provide the greatest number of primary care visits.
- EHRs must be certified by the Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology (CCHIT)

Practices do not have to have an EHR at the time of application to participate in the demonstration; however practices will not be eligible for any financial incentives until they have implemented a CCHIT-certified EHR. To see a list of CCHIT-certified EHRs, go to www.cchit.org.

Financial Incentives to Practices

No payments will be available to any practice until after it has implemented an EHR system and it is being used for core minimum functionalities.

Demo Year	Basis of Payment	Maximum \$ per Provider per year	Maximum \$ per Practice per Year
1	EHR Adoption (Office Systems Survey)	\$5000	\$25,000
2	EHR Adoption (Office Systems Survey) & Reporting of Clinical Measures	\$8000	\$40,000
3 - 5 (Annual payment)	EHR Adoption (Office Systems Survey) & Performance on Clinical Measures	\$15,000	\$75,000
Total Potential Demonstration Payment (All 5 years)		\$58,000	\$290,000

Recruitment of practices in Oklahoma will begin in the fall of 2009. CMS will have the final say regarding eligibility for participation in the demonstration. More information can be found at http://questions.cms.hhs.gov/cgi-bin/cms/hs/cfg/php/enduser/std_alp.php?p_pv=4.988