



June 19, 2018

NEWSLETTER

Topics (select for more information)

MIPS (Merit-based Incentive Payment System)

MU (Meaningful Use)

HIPAA PASS Privacy and Security

Hospitals

Immunizations

Readmissions

ADEs (Adverse Drug Events)

Antibiotic Stewardship

Additional News and Resources

MIPS (Merit-based Incentive Payment System)

News Flash:

The 2018 MIPS performance year is well under way and we anticipate the 2017 MIPS final scores being released some time in July. The [QPP Participation checking tool](#) now will give a predicted Qualified Participant (QP) status for those who are part of an Alternative Payment Model. You can check the eligibility status for all providers by logging into the [QPP portal](#).

We continue to add new resources to [our webpage](#) and have just added a number of **specialty packets** under the category alignment tools and resources tab. Our MIPS Tips session are scheduled every month on a variety of topics to help you understand the program and be successful in reporting for 2018.

Recent Information

- MIPS Action Plan Steps:
 - [Your MIPS Action Plan: Step 1 - Am I Included in MIPS?](#)
 - [Your MIPS Action Plan: Step 2 - Factors to Determine Reporting as a Group or as an Individual](#)
 - [Your MIPS Action Plan: Step 3 - A Look at Your EHR!](#)
 - [Your MIPS Action Plan: Step 4 - Selecting a Reporting Period](#)
 - [Your MIPS Action Plan: Step 5 - Selecting a Submission Method](#)
- Other MIPS Information:
 - Blog post: [New Eligibility Look-Up Tool: You Can Now Lookup More Than One NPI At A Time](#)
 - Blog post: [2018 MIPS Changes](#)
 - Blog post: [MIPS 2017 Is in the Books](#)

Resources

- Find an eligible clinician's National Provider Identifier (NPI) number and participation status [here](#).
- Learn more about MIPS participation by reviewing this [fact sheet](#).
- Learn how to get started with MIPS by reviewing this [fact sheet](#).

[Subscribe to the MIPS blog](#) to get just-in-time information. Have other questions? Please email us at qualitypaymenthelp@mpahf.org. We are here to help you be successful with the Quality Payment Program (QPP)!

MU (Meaningful Use)

News Flash:

The Medicare/Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive program, formerly known as Meaningful Use, will now be known as Promoting Interoperability (PI). The new focus of the PI program is to be more flexible and less burdensome for providers, to improve interoperability and to improve patients' access to their health information.

The proposed changes to the PI program will **NOT** start until reporting year 2019. The high-level, proposed changes for PI will include (starting in 2019):

- Eligible participants must use 2015 edition of EHR certification
- Reporting period will be 90 days
- Changes to the clinical quality measure (CQM) sets to align with inpatient quality reporting (IQR) and core measure changes
- More emphasis on measures that require interoperability, exchange of health information between providers and patients

For the 2018 reporting period, eligible hospitals and professionals will continue to attest to the same requirements as they did in 2017. Please access our [recent blog post](#) for more detailed information about 2018 reporting.

Recent Information

- [CMS Promoting Interoperability](#)
- [MU 2018 program requirement details available now](#)
- Blog post: [2018 Meaningful Use Info for Eligible Hospitals](#)
- Blog post: [Meaningful Use Requirements for 2018](#)

[Subscribe to the MU blog](#) to get just-in-time information. If you have any questions, please [contact Deb Anderson](#), CPHIMS.

HIPAA PASS

Privacy and Security

News Flash:

Physical security is an important component of the HIPAA Security Rule that is often overlooked. What constitutes appropriate physical security controls will

depend on each organization and its risk analysis and risk management process.

While the latest security solutions to combat new threats and vulnerabilities get much deserved attention, appropriate physical security controls are often overlooked. Physical security controls remain essential and are often cost-effective components of an organization's overall information security program.

[See this resource](#) for useful tips on creating an physical security strategy.

Here are [more resources](#) regarding HIPAA PASS Privacy and Security. If you have any questions, please [contact Susan Clarke](#).

Hospitals

News Flash:

The submission deadline for the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) patient perspectives on care survey data for first quarter (1Q) 2018 discharges (January 1-March 31, 2018) is July 5, 2018. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) strongly encourages all hospitals, whether they self-administer the HCAHPS Survey* or use a survey vendor, to submit data at least two days prior to the deadline to allow time to address any submission issues.

- Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) hospitals participating in the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program must collect and submit HCAHPS data to qualify to receive their full Annual Payment Update (APU).
- Non-IPPS hospitals must meet the same submission deadline for their data to be published on Hospital Compare.

Review and Correction Period

The Review and Correction Period is July 6-12, 2018. Immediately following the July 5, 2018 data-submission deadline, participating hospitals and survey vendors have a seven-day opportunity, the July 6-12, 2018 Review and Correction Period, to access and review the HCAHPS Data Review and Correction Report. The report contains a summary of the data accepted into the HCAHPS Data Warehouse for the quarter. New data will not be accepted into the warehouse during the Review and Correction Period. Errors in data accepted into the warehouse by the July 5, 2018 deadline can be corrected. During this seven-day period, the corrected data can be submitted to the warehouse to replace incorrect data.

Contact Information

- For general questions regarding the HCAHPS Survey, contact CMS at HospitalCAHPS@cms.hhs.gov
- For questions regarding specific HCAHPS hospital data, contact the HCAHPS Project Team at (888) 884-4007 or at hcahps@hcqis.org
- For questions regarding information on the HCAHPS initiative, file specifications and data-submission protocols, use the contact information on the HCAHPS website at www.hcahpsonline.org
- Questions regarding the Hospital IQR Program may be submitted through the Inpatient Questions & Answers tool at <https://cms-ip.custhelp.com> or to the Hospital Inpatient Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting Outreach and Education Support Team at (844) 472-4477

If you have any questions, please [contact Ericka Alm](#).

Immunizations

News Flash:

Planning for the 2018 FluFIT campaign is underway, so watch for webinars starting in August. This is a great opportunity to simultaneously promote wellness in two areas - flu shots and colon cancer surveillance. For your staff, we will host a Healthcare Worker Immunization education session in the late summer/early fall. Stay tuned for more information!

Resources

- Mountain-Pacific's [immunization and FluFIT tools and resources](#)
- Blog Post: [Vaccines in Practice: Influenza \(Flu\)](#)
- Blog Post: [Fact or Fiction: You Can Get the Flu from the Flu Shot](#)
- Blog Post: [Got Your Flu Shot Yet? It's Not Too Late!](#)
- Blog Post: [Fall, Flu and You!](#)
- [Effectiveness and Reach of the FluFIT Program in an Integrated Health Care System: a Multisite Randomized Trial](#)
- [The Effectiveness of the FLU-FOBT Program in Primary Care: A Randomized Trial](#)
- Mountain-Pacific's TV program [Healthy Living for Life - Immunizations Myth Busters: The Truth about Vaccines](#)

If you have any questions, please [contact Amber Rogers](#).

Readmissions

News Flash:

Hospital readmissions might be reduced more effectively if community-based readmission reduction strategies are added to ongoing, hospital focused improvement efforts. Human and social services are working in communities, but there continues to be almost no communication between many key service providers.

Other key issues include:

1. Major gaps in social service delivery programs, especially for the most vulnerable populations, including the homeless, the mentally and physically disabled and the aging and elderly.
2. Virtually no options for services available in most rural communities.
3. Services that do exist in rural communities are highly inaccessible.

Finally, we need to address and implement strategies that empower the population to make informed decisions about health care and long-term care options. We also need to ensure these options are accessible.

For program information, [visit the CMS website](#).

For more information with this project, please [contact Kevin Franke](#).

ADEs (Adverse Drug Events)

News Flash:

Are your patients buying medication online?

On June 5, 2018, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration [announced](#) that it has warned nine online networks, operating a total of 53 websites, that they must stop illegally marketing potentially dangerous, unapproved and misbranded versions of opioid medications, including tramadol and oxycodone. This follows a [February 2018 report from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy®](#) (NABP®) that found 54 percent of reviewed sites were selling controlled substances, up from 13 percent of sites in the previous nine years. They also found 98 percent of these sites did not require a valid prescription. Patients who buy prescription medicines from illegal online pharmacies may be putting their health at risk because the products, while being marketed as authentic, may be counterfeit, contaminated, expired or otherwise unsafe. In fact, 50-62 percent of medicines purchased online [are fake or substandard](#).

[BeSafeRx](#) is a national campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of buying prescription medicines from fake online pharmacies. This campaign provides resources to help consumers:

- Learn the dangers of buying from a fake online pharmacy.
- Identify the signs of a fake online pharmacy.
- Find a safe online pharmacy.

[The .Pharmacy Verified Websites Program](#) helps identify safe websites from around the world to purchase medication or to find medication-related information and services. It is operated by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy®, the impartial professional organization that supports the state boards of pharmacy in protecting public health. Only verified websites are allowed to use .pharmacy, ensuring these websites are properly licensed and have met [program standards](#).

Resources

- [What Mountain-Pacific is doing to help decrease ADEs](#)
- [ADEs tools and resources](#)
- National Help Line:
 - Phone number: 1-800-622-4357
 - [Website](#)

If you have any questions, please [contact Stevi Sy](#).

Antibiotic Stewardship

News Flash:

The American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) have identified that pharmacists have a responsibility to take prominent roles in antibiotic stewardship programs and participate in the infection prevention and control programs of all health care settings and systems. Pharmacists' responsibilities for antibiotic stewardship and infection prevention and control include promoting the optimal use of antimicrobial agents, reducing the transmission of infections and educating health professionals, patients and the public. To learn more about the ASHP's call to action visit:

<http://www.ahaphysicianforum.org/resources/appropriate-use/antimicrobial/content%20files%20pdf/ASHP-statement.pdf>

Resources

- [Learn more](#)
- [Tools and resources](#)

If you have any questions, please [contact Lori Chikoyak](#).

Additional News and Resources

News Flash:

Anderson Appointed to Wyoming Frontier Information Health Information Exchange (WYFI) Executive Committee

Deb Anderson of Mountain-Pacific Quality Health was recently appointed to the Wyoming Frontier Health Information Exchange (WYFI) Executive Committee. The term length is from June 20, 2018, to June 20, 2019. WYFI is a health information exchange (HIE) being implemented for providers and stakeholders within and surrounding the state of Wyoming. WYFI is working toward the vision of creating community-based virtual medical records and other clinical applications to promote a healthier Wyoming through a statewide secure, connected and coordinated health IT system.

Anderson is a resident of Sheridan, Wyoming and has been with Mountain-Pacific for more than five years. She is a Certified Professional in Health Information and Management Systems (CPHIMS). Anderson has worked with health care providers and hospitals in Wyoming and Montana to find data-driven solutions to improve health quality. Her experience includes electronic health record (EHR) implementation, establishing standardization and interoperability between EHR systems and departments, assisting Healthshare Montana (previously Montana Health Information Exchange), and serving on the Montana Tech Industry Advisory Board and a new Montana Medical Association-led HIE board called the Government Task Force and Technology Task Force.

"I am excited for the opportunity to serve on the WYFI Executive Committee and assist with helping improve health and wellness in our communities by implementing this exciting new program," said Anderson.

Mountain-Pacific Resources:

- [Tools and Resources](#)
- [News](#)
- [Blog](#)

- [Healthy Living for Life TV Show](#)

State Calendars:

- [Montana](#)
 - [Wyoming](#)
 - [Alaska](#)
 - [Hawaii](#)
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About Mountain-Pacific
Quality Health



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