What Is the eRx Incentive Program?

The Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program is a CMS reporting program that uses a combination of incentive payments and payment adjustments (penalties) to encourage electronic prescribing by eligible professionals. The program provides an incentive payment to practices with eligible professionals (EPs) (identified on claims by their National Provider Identifier [NPI] and Tax Identification Number [TIN]) who successfully e-prescribe for covered Medicare Physician Fee Service Schedule (MPFS) services for Medicare Part B Fee-for-Service (FFS) beneficiaries.

eRx Incentives and Penalties in 2014 and Beyond

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incentive Amount</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penalty Amount</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>TBD in future rule making</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2014: How to Avoid Penalties

1. Determine if you successfully electronically prescribed during the 2012 eRx 12-month reporting period, which was from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012; OR
2. Determine if you successfully electronically prescribed during the 2013 eRx 6-month reporting period, which was from January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013; OR
3. Qualified and requested a 2013 eRx significant hardship exemption, or submitted a lack of prescribing privileges G-code request.*

* Exemptions include:
   a. Practice in a rural area without adequate high-speed internet access
   b. Practice in a location without enough available pharmacies for e-prescribing
   c. Physicians who are unable to electronically prescribe due to local, State, or Federal law or Regulation
   d. Physicians who infrequently prescribe
   e. Insufficient opportunities to report the e-prescribing measure due to program limitations
   f. Successfully achieve Meaningful Use in the CMS Electronic Health Record (EHR) Meaningful Use Incentive Program
   g. Demonstrate intent to participate in the EHR Incentive Program for the first time by registering for the program and adopting certified EHR technology

Please Note: If you are unsure if you have met the reporting requirements and/or an exemption, please contact the CMS' QualityNet Help Desk as they can assist members on an individualized basis. The contact information for the QualityNet Help Desk is: Phone: 866-288-8912, Fax: 888-329-7377, Email: qnetsupport@sdps.org

Important Facts about eRx in 2014

◆ 2013 reporting year was the last year to report for the eRx program
◆ 2014 will be the last eRx payment adjustment (this may be subject to change in future rulemaking)
◆ Reporting G code (G8553) as a means of qualifying for the incentive, and thus avoiding penalties in 2014 is no longer applicable in 2014. In other words, there is not a replacement code for the G8553. However, e-prescribing is still an aspect of Meaningful Use reporting, so you will want to ensure that you are meeting all of the requirements for that reporting program. Please refer to the EHR Information Center at 888-734-6433 for more information on that program.