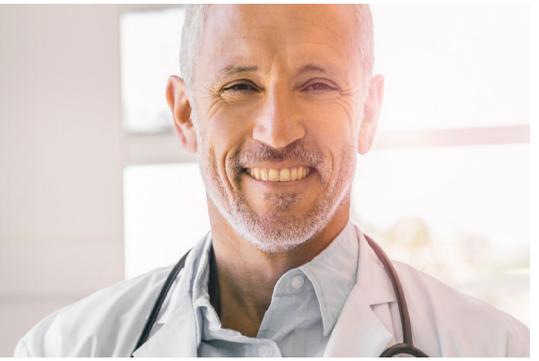


Clinical Integration Educational Series

MIPS Quality Reporting for Medicare Shared Savings Program Track 1 Accountable Care Organizations



Introduction

The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) establishes a new clinician reimbursement mechanism with two payment tracks: the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) track and the Advanced Alternative Payment Model (APM) track.

In the last three installments in our educational series we reviewed MACRA, the timing of implementation, and the impact of MIPS on clinician reimbursement. As a reminder, MIPS adjusts clinician payments based on their performance across four categories.

By participating in your clinically integrated network's Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) Track 1 Accountable Care Organizations (ACO), you are fulfilling your MIPS quality reporting requirement in 2017. This week, we will go into detail about how clinicians participating in a MSSP Track 1 ACO will be scored on the quality category under MIPS.

QUALITY	IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES	ADVANCING CARE INFORMATION	COST
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For MSSP ACO participants, the quality category will be weighted at 50% of clinicians' total MIPS score in 2017. As a reminder, MIPS performance in 2017 will be used to determine clinician payment adjustments in 2019.

MIPS Quality Reporting for Clinicians in MSSP Track 1 ACOs

Physician groups that elected to participate in MSSP do not have to report as an individual clinician or practice group for MIPS quality.

Quality reporting for MSSP fulfills the quality requirement for MIPS so that you do not have to report twice.

Your MSSP ACO will report on 31 measures. CMS calculates 16 measures by conducting chart audits, seven using claims, and eight from ACO Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey results. Clinicians in your ACO will be **scored as a group**, and receive a single quality score under MIPS. There is **no additional reporting necessary** to meet MIPS requirements outside of the 31 MSSP measures.

This informational series will be distributed every other week to help clinicians stay updated on MACRA and other initiatives. The next topic will be an overview of the Improvement Activities category under the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Dignity Health will be publishing a MACRA Playbook in January which will detail the data reporting requirements. In the meantime, for more details on MACRA and to explore measures please visit <https://qpp.cms.gov/measures/quality>.

The MACRA final rule was released on October 14. Given that the law passed with bipartisan support, implementation is expected to continue under the new administration.

MIPS Quality Metrics for Clinicians in MSSP Track 1 ACOs

For clinicians in MSSP Track 1 ACOs, MIPS quality score depends on MSSP quality metrics. Reporting on these measures will determine your ACO's group quality score under MIPS. The quality metrics for MSSP ACOs fall under four domains.

Domain	Number of Measures	Total Points Possible	Domain Weight
Patient and Caregiver Experience (Getting timely care, communication of provider, shared decision-making)	8	16	25%
Care Coordination/Patient Safety (Readmissions, falls)	10	22	25%
Preventive Health (Preventive care and screening)	8	16	25%
Clinical Care for At-Risk Populations (Care for patients with depression, diabetes, hypertension)	5 (1 is Diabetes Composite measure)	8	25%

MIPS Quality Scoring for Clinicians in MSSP Track 1 ACOs

Because MSSP ACO measures are pay for reporting in the first year of the contract (performance year 2017), if your MSSP ACO reports fully in 2017, you will receive full credit for the quality category in MIPS in 2017. It is important to remember, however, that the MSSP ACO measures transition to pay for performance over the next two years of the contract, so your score will ultimately depend on your performance on the measures.

To calculate the MSSP ACO's overall quality score (and thereby your MIPS quality category score), CMS totals the points earned for each of the individual measures in each domain and divides by the total points available for each domain. CMS then averages the four domain scores. Each domain is given equal weight for scoring purposes. Your ACO will receive one group quality score, which will count as your MIPS Quality category score.