CMS Intends to Modify Requirements for Meaningful Use Beginning in 2015

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced on January 29, 2015 the intent to engage in rulemaking to update the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs beginning in 2015. These intended changes would help to reduce the reporting burden on providers, while supporting the long term goals of the program.

CMS is considering proposals to:

- Realign hospital EHR reporting periods to the calendar year to allow eligible hospitals more time to incorporate 2014 Edition software into their workflows and to better align with other CMS quality programs.
- Modify other aspects of the program to match long-term goals, reduce complexity, and lessen providers’ reporting burdens.
- Shorten the EHR reporting period in 2015 to 90 days to accommodate these changes.

The new rule, expected this spring, would be intended to be responsive to provider concerns about software implementation, information exchange readiness, and other related concerns in 2015. CMS’s intent to pursue changes to meaningful use beginning in 2015 through rulemaking is separate from the forthcoming Stage 3 proposed rule that is expected to be released by early March.

Additional information is available at:
http://blog.cms.gov/2015/01/29/cms-intends-to-modify-requirements-for-meaningful-use/

Additional Resources – Texas Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

- Learn about program rules and steps by using the self-paced e-learning module at: www.texasehrincentives.com.
- Visit the Texas Medicaid Health IT website for updates on the EHR Incentive Program and other Health IT initiatives.
- For more information or other program questions, contact: support@tmhp-mi.com or call 1-800-925-9126 (option 4).