



Take Action by September 30 to Avoid Automatic CY 2016 Value-Based Payment Modifier Downward Payment Adjustment

Adjustments Impact Practices with 10 or More EPs

Are you practicing in a group with 10 or more eligible providers (EPs)? If so, you may need to take immediate action to avoid a 2-percent Medicare payment reduction related to the Value-Based Payment Modifier.

EPs include physicians, practitioners, physical or occupational therapists, qualified speech-language pathologists and qualified audiologists. A group of physicians is defined by its Medicare-enrolled Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN).

EPs who are not participating in the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) in CY 2014, or another quality reporting initiative¹, will be affected by the payment adjustment applied in 2016. If you are participating as a group, you must register for the PQRS Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) by **September 30, 2014** to avoid this penalty.

What are my options for participation?

1. **Group practice:** Sign up for the 2014 PQRS GPRO via the CMS [Registration System](#). A [quick reference guide](#) will help you navigate the process.
2. **Individual provider:** All EPs must participate in PQRS and 50 percent must meet the satisfactory reporting criteria as individuals. Registration is not necessary if you take this option. More [information is available](#) on the CMS website.

Where can I go for help?

For questions about the Value Modifier, the sign-up process, or participating in the 2014 PQRS as a group or individual, please contact the QualityNet Help Desk at 1-866-288-8912 or via email at qnetsupport@hcqis.org. Click [here](#) for additional resources.

As the CMS Quality Innovation Network – Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) for Virginia and Maryland, VHQC offers support to providers participating in PQRS and other quality reporting incentive programs. Email pqrs@vhqc.org to learn more.

¹ Medicare will not apply the CY 2016 Value Modifier to a group of physicians if one or more physicians in the group participates in the Medicare Shared Savings Program, the Pioneer ACO Model or the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative in CY 2014.