



Practice Support Newsletter July/August 2017

Preparing for MACRA

WHAT
YOU
NEED
TO
KNOW?



Hardship Applications

[2017 Quality Payment Program Hardship Exception](#)

Clinicians who are MIPS eligible may submit a hardship application for the following:

- **Insufficient Internet Connectivity** (e.g. are in an area with lack of broadband)
- **Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances** (e.g. disaster)
- **Lack of Control over the availability of CHERT** (e.g. EHR vendor issues)

For qualifying clinicians, the [Advancing Care Information](#) category would be reweighted to 0% and the 25% would be allocated to the [Quality](#) performance category. If a MIPS clinician participates in a [MIPS Alternative Payment Model](#) they may be exempted from the ACI category.

MIPS eligible providers who have never participated in the EHR incentive program may be eligible for a the 2017 [Transitioning to MIPS hardship exception](#). The application for this hardship exception is due **October 1st 2017**. To avoid a 2018 penalty MIPS eligible providers who have not participated in Meaningful Use (MU) in previous years must attest to MU by October 1, 2017 or submit for the hardship.

Your Practice Support Consultants are here to help!

Contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

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MACRA is Here: Are you Prepared?

September 14, 2017 | 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Center for Learning & Development, Bldg K
5039 Airport Center Pkwy. Charlotte, NC 28208

REGISTER NOW

Providers across the country are facing the challenges of learning about and complying with MACRA. Eligible professionals that serve Medicare patients will need to understand how to successfully report to avoid negative payment adjustments under Medicare's Quality Payment Program. Workshop participants will learn to navigate through the intricacies of the new Medicare payment system.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to [Albemarle Pediatrics](#)! Dr. Linda Lawrence and the team at Albemarle pediatrics achieved NCQA level 3 Patient Centered Medical Home Recognition (PCMH) on 6/21/17. We are so proud of their achievement and continued commitment to provide the best possible care for their patients!



Are you on the list?



Great news for providers and patients! In addition to Coastal Connect HIE three of the state's largest hospital systems have recently signed agreements to connect to the NC HIEA. Are you on the list? Click [here](#) to see who is connected!

All physicians, PAs and NPs who provide Medicaid services and have an EHR must be connected by June 1, 2018. Click [here](#) for the latest updates from NC HealthConnex.

August is National Immunization Awareness Month!



August is the month to promote the importance of vaccines! [NPHIC](#) has created a "communications toolkit". The toolkit may be adapted for your practice and comes complete with banners, Instagram, Twitter and Facebook images that may be uploaded to your practice website or social media accounts. Let patients know how vaccines protect us across a lifetime!

Celebrate Rural Health Nursing!

Save the date!

Click here: [NC AHEC Inaugural Statewide Celebration of Rural Nursing Conference](#) for more information.

NORTH CAROLINA AHEC NC AHEC Nurse Council Presents
THE INAUGURAL STATEWIDE Celebration of Rural Nursing
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017 | 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

A concurrent conference for rural nurses working in underserved areas of North Carolina.

Save the date!

Two statewide broadcast keynote addresses will link all the regions together, setting the theme for the conference
and
Each AHEC will offer additional live, on-site presentations that focus on regional topics.

Angeline Bushy, PhD, RN, PHCNS-BC, FAAN
UCF College of Nursing | Orlando FL
"Social Determinants and Health Disparities in Rural Populations"

Blake Fagan, MD
Mountain AHEC | Asheville, NC
"Treating Pain Safer: Fewer Opioids and Better Results"

EVENT LOCATIONS:
Wake AHEC, Eastern AHEC, and Area L AHEC: Edgecombe Community College - Tarboro Campus
Eastern AHEC and South East AHEC: Turnage Theater in Washington, Beaufort County
Southern Regional AHEC, South East AHEC and Charlotte AHEC: Robeson Community College
Northwest AHEC and Greensboro AHEC: Davidson County Community College
MAHEC and Western Carolina University: WCU Cullowhee
Charlotte AHEC and MAHEC: Isothermal Community College

This event is partially supported by the NCAHEC Investments in the Future grant.

Mark your calendar now!

Do you Participate in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program?

Don't wait! Attest now!

Questions? Call your AHEC Practice Support consultant today!