

# STICKS AND CARROTS:

## MEDICARE PAYMENT AND DELIVERY REFORM TIMELINE

Program	2013	2014
<p><b>PQRS</b></p> <p>Physician Quality Reporting System</p>	<p>Note: 2013 data will determine 2015 payment adjustment</p>	<p>9/30/14 Last day for groups to register to participate in GPRO for 2014 PQRS program year via web interface, registry, EHR reporting or CAHPS reporting methods</p> <hr/> <p>12/31/14 End of 2014 PQRS reporting period</p> <p>Note: 2014 PQRS data will determine 2016 PQRS payment adjustment</p>
<p><b>VBPM</b></p> <p>Value-Based Payment Modifier</p>	<p>10/15/13 Last day for groups <math>\geq 100</math> to self-nominate/elect quality-tiering for VBPM</p> <hr/> <p>Note: 2013 PQRS data will be used to determine 2015 VB modifier payment adjustment</p>	<p>5/1 to 9/30/14 Registration period for VBPM to avoid a 2% penalty in 2016</p> <hr/> <p>Third quarter 2014 Retrieve 2013 physician feedback reports (all groups and individuals)</p> <p>Note: 2014 PQRS data will be used to determine 2016 VB modifier payment adjustment</p>
<p><b>MU</b></p> <p>Meaningful Use</p>		<p>2014 Last year to start and receive incentive payment</p> <hr/> <p>7/1/14 Last day to start meaningful use reporting period for first time attestors in order to avoid penalty</p> <hr/> <p>10/1/14 Must attest to meaningful use no later than this date to avoid penalty</p>



Though many of the Medicare-oriented programs intended to reduce costs and improve care have gone into effect, a number of implementation steps remain ahead in the years to come.

2015	2016	2017
<p>1/1/15 Beginning of reporting period for 2015 PQRS program year for group and individuals</p> <hr/> <p>1/1/15 1.5% penalty (per claim line) for group and individuals who did not satisfactorily report quality data in 2013</p> <hr/> <p>2/28/15 Last day to submit 2014 PQRS data to determine the 2014 incentive payment and the 2016 payment adjustment</p> <hr/> <p>2/28/15 Last day to submit 2014 quality measures for dual participation in PQRS and the Medicare EHR incentive program</p> <hr/> <p>12/31/15 End of 2015 PQRS reporting period</p> <p>Note: 2015 PQRS data will determine the 2017 PQRS payment adjustment</p>	<p>1/1/16 Beginning of reporting period for 2016 PQRS program year for group and individuals</p> <hr/> <p>1/1/16 2% penalty (per claim line) for group and individuals who did not satisfactorily report quality data in 2014</p> <hr/> <p>2/26/16 Last day that 2015 claims will be processed to be counted for PQRS reporting to determine the 2017 payment adjustment</p> <hr/> <p>2/28/16 Last day to submit 2015 quality measures for dual participation in PQRS and the Medicare EHR incentive program</p> <hr/> <p>12/31/16 End of 2016 PQRS reporting period</p> <p>Note: 2016 data will determine 2018 payment adjustment</p>	<p>1/1/17 2% penalty (per claim line) for group and individuals who did not satisfactorily report quality data in 2015</p> <p>Note: The penalty will be 2% for subsequent years</p>
<p>1/1/15 VBPM applied to physicians in groups of <math>\geq 100</math>, 1% penalty up to 2x% positive adjustment dependent upon quality and cost performance</p> <p>Note: Based on 2013 PQRS data</p> <hr/> <p>First quarter 2015 Complete submission of 2014 PQRS information</p> <hr/> <p>Third quarter 2015 Retrieve 2014 physician feedback reports (all groups and individuals)</p>	<p>1/1/16 VBPM applied to physicians in groups of <math>&gt;10</math>, 2% penalty for groups of <math>&gt;10</math> and up to 2x% positive adjustment dependent upon quality and cost performance</p> <p>Note: Based on 2014 PQRS data</p> <hr/> <p>1/1/17 VBPM applied to all physicians</p>	<p>To be determined 4% penalty proposed in Medicare's notice of proposed rule for 2015 physician fee schedule update</p> <p>Note: Based on 2015 PQRS data</p>
<p>1/1/2015 Eligible providers who have not achieved meaningful use subject to 1% penalty</p> <p>Note: Based on 2013 attestation or hardship exemption</p>	<p>1/1/2016 Eligible providers who have not achieved or maintained meaningful use subject to 2% penalty</p>	<p>1/1/17 Eligible providers who have not achieved or maintained meaningful use subject to 3% penalty</p> <p>Note: There will be an additional 1% penalty per year for 2018 and 2019 (up to a maximum of 5%)</p>
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>Physicians who ignore these programs now could face up to a 9% reimbursement cut by 2017 (some of it based upon 2015 performance). These cuts are separate from the planned 2% Medicare sequestration cuts and any potential SGR reductions.</p> </div> </div>		