

**From:** Siciliano, Lorraine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 7:52 AM  
**To:** Siciliano, Lorraine  
**Subject:** CMS and ONC celebrate National Health IT Week by publishing the Final Rule!

To All Vermont Medicaid EHR Incentive Program participants:

Yesterday evening, CMS issued their long-awaited final rules for the EHR Incentive Program for **Stage 3 and Modifications to Meaningful Use in 2015 through 2017**. In addition, the ONC announced the final rule for the **2015 Edition Health IT Certification Criteria**. Final publication is scheduled for October 16, 2015.

The CMS Final Rule eases Meaningful Use reporting requirements for providers and confirms a 90-day reporting period for Program Year 2015. The CMS Fact Sheet with an overview of changes and goals is attached and available here: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2015-Fact-sheets-items/2015-10-06.html>

In a [statement accompanying the release of the rules](#), CMS announced a “a 60-day public comment period to gather additional feedback about the EHR incentive programs going forward,” signaling that further changes to Stage 3 will be considered based on feedback about the EHR Incentive Programs and the upcoming rulemaking to implement MACRA, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015.

A PDF of the 752-page CMS Rule is available here:  
<https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2015-25595.pdf>

The [ONC Fact Sheet](#) on 2015 Edition CEHRT highlights provisions that emphasize interoperability, accessibility and exchange of data. A PDF of the 560-page ONC Rule is available here:  
<https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2015-25597.pdf>

Much more information about the final rules will be forthcoming from CMS and the Vermont Medicaid EHRIP Team, including crosswalks comparing old and new MU objectives, participation timelines and other guidance to advise providers in successfully meeting EHR Incentive Program requirements going forward.

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P.S. It was great seeing and chatting in person with many of you at last week’s VITL Summit! Thanks for seeking out EHRIP Team members so we could put faces to names, and thanks for all your great questions. Keep them coming!