

**From:** Siciliano, Lorraine  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 2015 4:00 PM  
**To:** Siciliano, Lorraine  
**Subject:** VT Medicaid EHRIP Updates: Important Dates; CMS FAQ Update for Public Health Objective; Spec Sheets and Other Resources from CMS

To All Vermont Medicaid EHR Incentive Program participants:

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **December 14, 2015** – 12/14/15 is the last day to submit a Program Year 2015 Meaningful Use EHRIP application using the [current](#) rule requirements (not the new Modified-MU2 Rule requirements), if the provider is attesting to MU for the first time.
- **December 14, 2015** – 12/14/15 is also the last day to [submit comments](#) to CMS regarding certain sections in the Rule regarding Stage 2 Meaningful Use.
- **December 15, 2015** – As of 12/15/15, providers will NO LONGER be able to submit Program Year 2015 attestations for Meaningful Use. Providers may continue to attest to Adopt, Implement, or Upgrade (AIU) in the MAPIR system, if this is their first year participating in the EHR Incentive program. All MU applications must wait to be submitted when MPAIR is updated to accept the Modified-MU2 Objectives, which is scheduled to be available by the end of March 2016 for Vermont Medicaid EHR Incentive Program participants.

**2015**

DECEMBER						
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**NEW UPDATE TO CMS FAQ: MODIFIED-MU2 PUBLIC HEALTH OBJECTIVE FOR PY2015**

CMS has made an important clarification to [FAQ 12985](#) that has an impact on providers scheduled to meet Stage 2 in Program Year 2015:

**EPs scheduled to be in Stage 2:** Must attest to at least 2 measures from the Public Health Reporting Objective Measures 1-3

- May claim an Alternate Exclusion for Measure 2 or Measure 3 (Syndromic Surveillance Measure or Specialized Registry Reporting Measure) ***or both.***

The addition of two words, “or both” means that a provider scheduled to be in Stage 2 in Program Year 2015 is able to either attest to the Immunization Registry measure by meeting the measure or by claiming the standard exclusion (i.e. a specialist who does not administer immunizations), and then take the Alternate Exclusions for **BOTH** Syndromic Surveillance and the Specialized Registry, and pass the Public Health Objective. With this change, it is now clear that providers are able to take the Alternate Exclusion for both the Syndromic and Specialized Registry measures. Essentially, the Alternate Exclusion states that if providers had not planned on registering or on-boarding with the registry **in 2015**, then taking the Alternate Exclusion is allowed.

## SPECIFICATION SHEETS AND MORE RESOURCES FROM CMS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2015 REQUIREMENTS

Last week, CMS posted the much-anticipated PY2015 Modified-MU2 **Specification Sheets** for [Eligible Professionals](#) and [Eligible Hospitals/CAHs](#). In addition, the following resources are available:

- What You Need to Know **Tipsheets** for 2015 for [EPs](#) and [EHs/CAHs](#)
- [Overview](#) of the EHR Incentive Programs in 2015-2017
- [What's Changed](#) for the EHR Incentive Programs in 2015-2017
- [Fact Sheet](#) on Alternate Exclusions and Alternate Specifications
- Summarized Objectives and Measures Tables for [EPs](#) and [EHs/CAHs](#)

A collection of links to resources to assist providers with Program Year 2015 requirements is available at the [CMS website](#).

Don't hesitate to [contact the Vermont Medicaid EHRIP Team](#) with any questions, and be sure to check out the Vermont Medicaid EHRIP [website](#) for important information and the latest updates about the program.

Thanks,  
Lorraine

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