

From: Siciliano, Lorraine
Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2016 6:49 PM
To: Siciliano, Lorraine
Subject: VT Medicaid EHRIP Updates: MAPIR Upgrade; Important Dates for EHs and EPs

To All Vermont Medicaid EHR Incentive Program participants:

Welcome to 2016! Program Year 2015 is officially closed, the PY2015 Grace Period is under way, and PY2016 started on January 1st. The EHRIP Team has received many questions about when providers can attest for PY2015 payments, and when deadlines for submitting applications will be established. We have developed a [Timeline](#) to highlight upcoming important dates (see below).

As many of you are aware, CMS issues guidance for both the [Medicare](#) and [Medicaid](#) EHR Incentive Programs. The 2015 [Medicare](#) EHRIP deadlines do not apply to providers submitting VT Medicaid EHRIP applications. In addition, providers are still receiving guidance on Program 2015 attestation options while also now tracking Program Year 2016 requirements. This complexity can contribute to confusion, so please review the Timeline below, and do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, or if you just want to confirm a provider's MU status, etc. See my email signature below for all our contact info. The EHRIP Team welcomes all your inquiries, and will endeavor to respond as quickly as possible.

UPDATE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF MAPIR 5.7: MAY 20, 2016

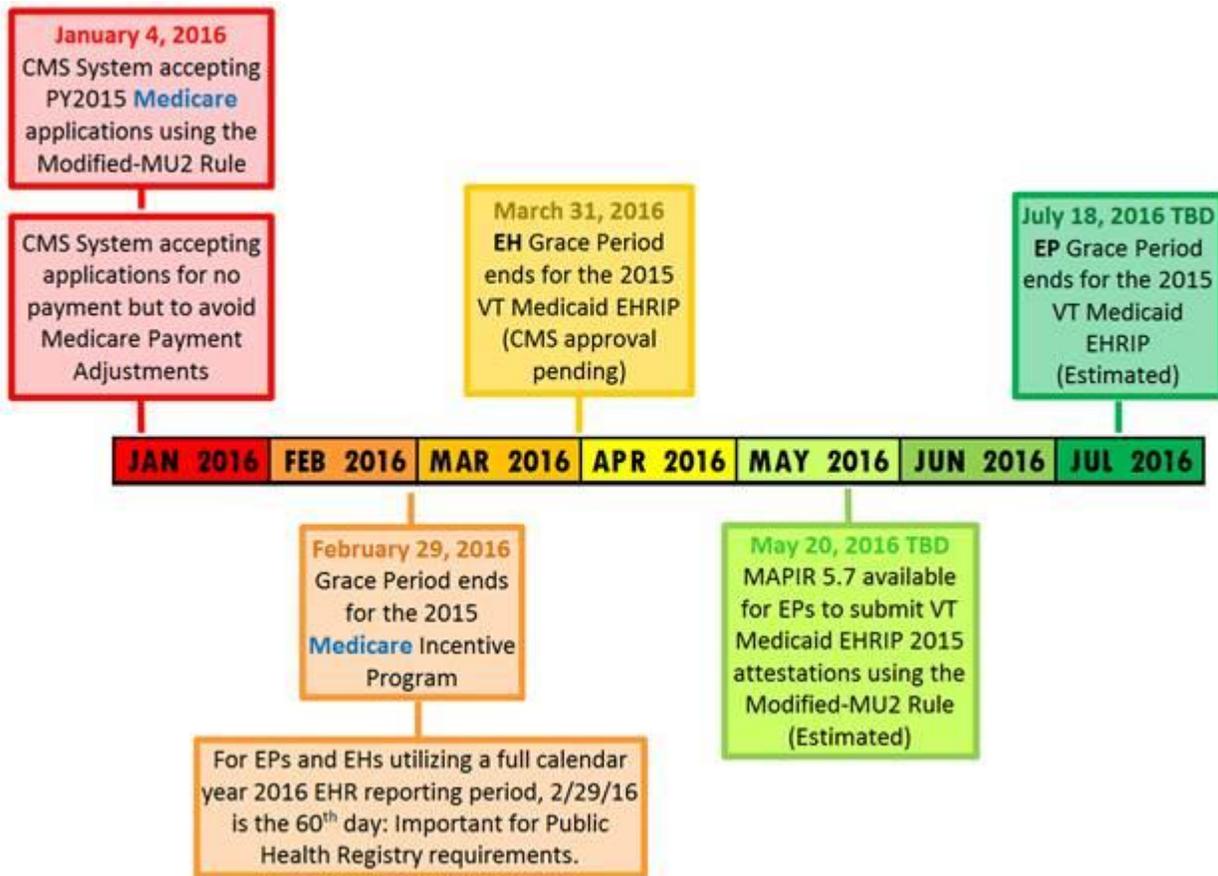
As one of 13 states belonging to the [MAPIR Collaborative](#), Vermont's EHRIP Team has been participating in the development of MAPIR 5.7 with the Core MAPIR group. Approval for the Core MAPIR system and screen changes was received from CMS on 12/28/15. Due to the volume of Core MAPIR systems changes needed to support the 2015-2017 Modified-MU2 Rule, the planned delivery Release Date of MAPIR 5.7 to the individual MAPIR Collaborative states is now the end of March 2016. Once we receive the upgrade from Core MAPIR, Vermont's EHRIP Team and our technical partners at HPE will require an estimated eight additional weeks to customize the MAPIR 5.7 upgrade for Vermont's systems, as well as to develop updated User Guides and coordinated website resources to align with the system changes. We estimate that MAPIR 5.7 will be available for EP Meaningful Use attestations on [May 20th, 2016](#). Approval from CMS is pending to extend our Grace Period 60 days beyond deployment date, which makes the estimated deadline for EPs to submit an application [July 18th, 2016](#). We will keep our program participants apprised of any changes as our deployment schedule proceeds.

***Please note:** EPs attesting to A/I/U and **all Dually Eligible Hospitals** do not have to wait to submit a Program Year 2015 attestation. **EHs** must submit a [Medicare](#) EHRIP application by 2/29/16, and will have until 3/31/16 to submit a VT Medicaid EHRIP application.

PROGRAM YEAR 2016 IS THE LAST YEAR TO BEGIN RECEIVING PAYMENTS IN THE MEDICAID EHRIP

Eligible providers can receive incentive payments for up to six years, but **Program Year 2016** will be the last year for providers to **begin** the Medicaid EHRIP. First-time participants in 2016 must register at the [CMS Registration and Attestation](#) site, and must either *Acquire, Implement or Upgrade* their certified EHR system **or** complete a 90-day *Meaningful Use* period by December 31, 2016.

VT MEDICAID EHRIP IMPORTANT DATES FOR EPs AND EHs



January 4, 2016: The CMS System opened to accept Program Year 2015 Medicare applications using the Modified-MU2 Rule.

The CMS System opened to accept applications for no payment but to avoid Medicare Payment Adjustments. Providers who are participating in the Medicaid EHRIP but cannot receive a PY2015 payment due to patient volume eligibility requirements may still attest for their MU criteria, and avoid Medicare Payment Adjustments. More information and guidance is expected to be issued soon from CMS regarding this option for providers.

February 29, 2016: The Grace Period ends for the Program Year 2015 Medicare EHRIP. All EPs and EHs must submit their 2015 Medicare EHRIP attestations by midnight on 2/29/16.

For all providers who are beyond their first year of demonstrating Meaningful Use, Program Year 2016 requires a full calendar year EHR reporting period. Please note that 2/29/16 is the 60th day of the reporting period, which is an important deadline for providers meeting the Public Health Objective registration requirements.

March 31, 2016: Pending approval from CMS regarding the Vermont EHRIP Grace Period, 3/31/16 will be the deadline for **Eligible Hospitals** to submit their Program Year 2015 VT Medicaid EHRIP application.

May 20, 2016: Estimated date when EPs will be able to start Program Year 2015 VT Medicaid Meaningful Use attestations using the Modified-MU2 Rule. Program Year 2015 and Program Year 2016 A/I/U attestations are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

July 18, 2016: Estimated date by which EPs will need to submit all Program Year 2015 VT Medicaid EHRIP applications.

A collection of links to resources to assist providers with Program Year 2015 requirements is available at the [CMS website](#). Be sure to check out the [Vermont Medicaid EHRIP website](#) for important information and the latest updates about the program.

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