

From: Siciliano, Lorraine
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 7:56 AM
To: Siciliano, Lorraine
Subject: VT Medicaid EHRIP Updates: MU is NOT Going Away; Alternate Method to Attest if an EP Cannot Meet Patient Volume; Important Dates

To All Vermont Medicaid EHR Incentive Program participants:

MU IS ACTUALLY NOT GOING AWAY

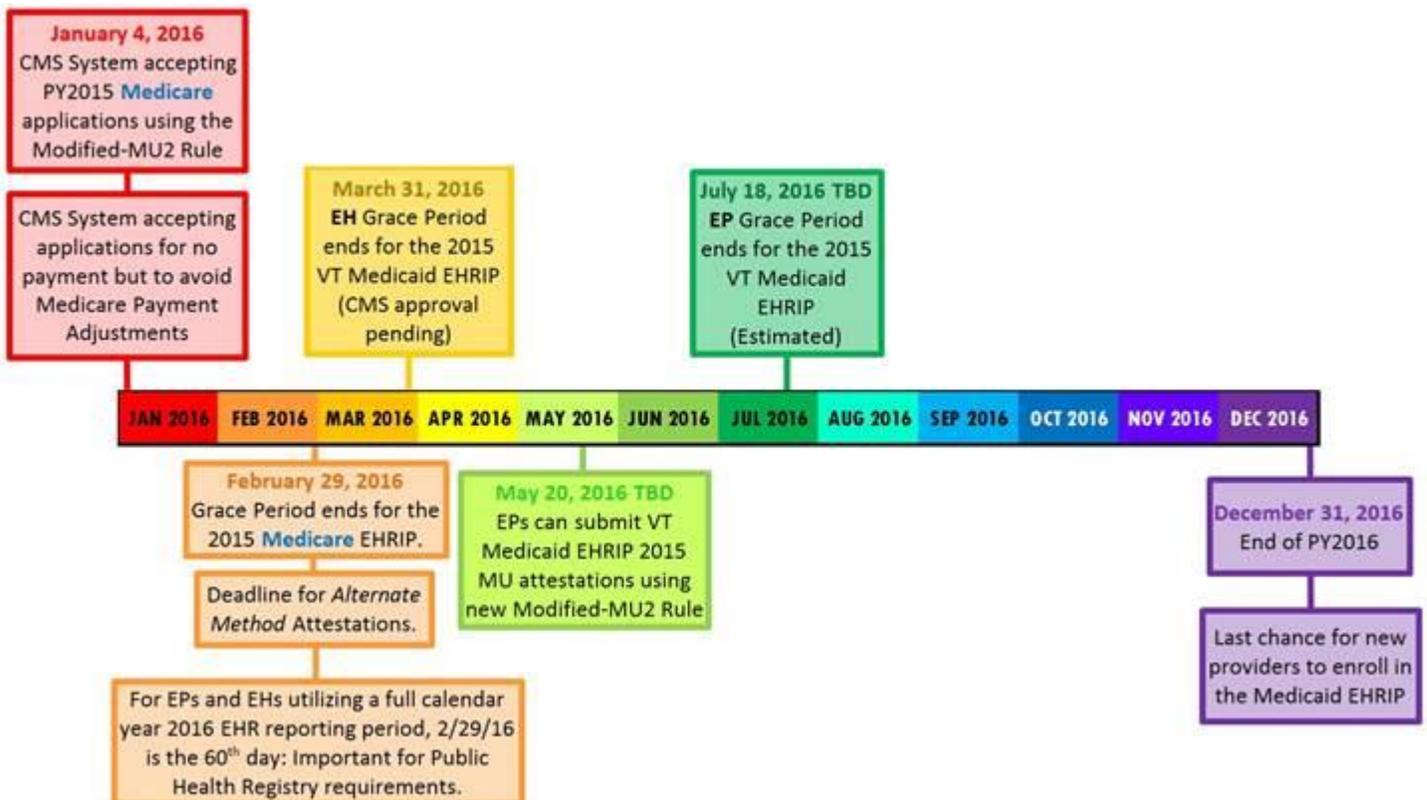
Last week, CMS Acting Administrator Andy Slavitt caused a bit of a kerfuffle when he announced that “*the Meaningful Use program as it has existed, will now be effectively over and replaced with something better.*” Going beyond the scintillating soundbite that swept the social media scene, and in digesting the [entirety of his remarks](#) made to the JP Morgan Healthcare Conference, it was clear that the immediate demise of Meaningful Use is NOT happening. In fact, CMS officials hastened to clarify that Meaningful Use is not ending, but is being rolled up into the Medicare Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS), and that the **Medicaid EHR Incentive Program is still set to go through 2021**. As ever, we eagerly await additional guidance and information from CMS. But in the meantime, participants in the Vermont Medicaid EHRIP will continue to receive incentive payments according to the recent rule outlining the Modified-MU2 program requirements.

DIDN'T MEET PATIENT VOLUME IN PY2015 BUT STILL NEED TO AVOID PAYMENT ADJUSTMENTS?

One of the provisions included in the recent 2015-2017 Modified MU2 Rule allows for an Alternate Method for attestation for participants in the Medicaid EHRIP who cannot meet the Medicaid patient volume threshold. The Alternate Method attestation system will not issue an incentive payment, but it will allow providers to attest to their Meaningful Use criteria in order to avoid a Medicare Payment Adjustment. CMS is accepting Program Year 2015 Alternate Method attestations now through **February 29, 2016** at the Medicare Registration and Attestation site. More information is available [at our website](#).

VT MEDICAID EHRIP IMPORTANT DATES FOR EPs AND EHs

(Click the image below to open a larger version with date details)



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.

Lorraine Siciliano
Medicaid Operations Administrator
Electronic Health Records Incentive Program
Department of Vermont Health Access
(802) 363-4652

