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Occasionally we get requests, after a newsletter has gone out, from someone asking to be taken off our mailing list. As a reminder, there are instructions at the end of each newsletter on how to remove your name from our mailing list. The other option, of course, is to just delete the email when you get it. 😊

Announcement from CMS

We just receive the following CMS EHR Newsletter with some important information about 2015. Dr. Conway's blog is also interesting reading.

CMS Announces Intent to Engage in Rulemaking for EHR Incentive Program Changes for 2015

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) intends to engage in rulemaking this spring to help ensure providers continue to meet meaningful use requirements.

In response to input from health care providers and other stakeholders, CMS is considering the following changes to the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs:

1. **Shortening the 2015 reporting period to 90 days** to address provider concerns about their ability to fully deploy 2014 Edition software
2. **Realigning hospital reporting periods to the calendar year** to allow eligible hospitals more time to incorporate 2014 Edition software into their workflows and to better align with other quality programs
3. **Modifying other aspects of the programs** to match long-term goals, reduce complexity, and lessen providers' reporting burden

These proposed changes reflect the Department of Health and Human Services' commitment to creating a health information technology infrastructure that:

- Elevates patient-centered care
- Improves health outcomes
- Supports the providers who care for patients

While CMS intends to pursue these changes through rulemaking, they will not be included in the pending Stage 3 proposed rule. CMS intends to limit the scope of the pending proposed rule to Stage 3 and meaningful use in 2017 and beyond.

To read Dr. Conway's blog on this announcement, go to: <http://blog.cms.gov/>. For more information about the EHR Incentive Programs, please visit <http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms>.



Contact Information

As always, anytime you have a question or need assistance, please feel free to contact us. We will get back to you as quickly as possible.

 **Please be sure to include the provider's name and NPI when contacting us.** 

- ◆ For questions relating to **Meaningful Use (MU)**, send an email to EHRMeaningfuluse.TennCare@tn.gov
- ◆ For **all other questions**, send an email to TennCare.EHRIncentive@tn.gov
- ◆ The **CMS Help Desk** can be reached at 1-888-734-6433.
- ◆ **TennCare Medicaid EHR Incentive Program web site:** http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/ehr_intro.shtml
- ◆ **PowerPoint Presentations** on different subject areas are available here:
http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/ehr_page6.shtml

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