What’s PQRS’s impact? Interactive assessment provides member insight

By the MGMA Government Affairs staff

A new member-exclusive tool can help you understand participation requirements for the 2013 PQRS program, which allows professionals to earn incentives and avoid costly penalties. The Interactive PQRS Impact Assessment (mgma.com/solutions-PQRS-impact-assessment), created by the MGMA Government Affairs team, will help you navigate reporting requirements based on your practice size.

PQRS is a quality-reporting program that provides an incentive payment to eligible professionals (EPs) who satisfactorily report data on quality measures for covered services furnished to Medicare Part B fee-for-service beneficiaries.

PQRS, which was formerly known as PQRI, is tricky to traverse because of constant program modifications and different paths available for participation, depending on practice size, reporting method and other factors. It subjects EPs who do not meet certain reporting criteria based on their program performance in 2013 to a -1.5 percent payment penalty in 2015. We have charted the dates below to simplify the process and help you avoid the penalties.

As shown below, calendar year (CY) 2013 and 2014 are the last years that EPs can earn incentive payments of 0.5 percent for successful participation in the PQRS program. In addition to the -1.5 percent penalty levied in 2015 for not meeting certain reporting criteria in the program in 2013, you can expect a -2.0 percent penalty in CY 2016 and beyond.

Additional PQRS information and tools are available to members at mgma.com/solutions-pqrs. If you have any questions about PQRS or any other government program, email govaff@mgma.com or call 202.293.3450.

More PQRS resources at mgma.com/solutions-side-pqrs:
• EP definitions
• Deadlines
• Incentives and penalty information
• Measure details
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