

Quick Guide to Alternative Payment Models

Alternative Payment Models (APMs) are the most advanced options under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act's (MACRA) Quality Payment Program. APMs offer the highest incentives and could be the preferred model of the future. But APM requirements are complex – and some don't even qualify for MACRA. Where do you stand? Here's an overview of some of the current guidelines.



Alternative Payment Models	MACRA Advanced APM	Patient Requirement	Payment Types					Application Deadline
			Fee-for-service	Management Fee	Bundled Payment	Shared Savings or Shared Savings & Risk	Performance Incentives	

P= Prospective R= Retrospective

HEALTH SYSTEM

Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP), Track 1 Exceptions: Pioneer ACO, Next Generation ACO, End-stage Renal Disease (ESRD)		5K	✓			✓		July 29, 2016
Medicare Shared Savings Program, Tracks 2 & 3 Exceptions: Pioneer ACO, Next Generation ACO, ESRD	✓	5K	✓			✓		July 29, 2016
Next Generation ACO, Models A & B Exceptions: MSSP, Independence at Home, 1115A models	✓	10K	✓	✓		✓		May 25, 2016

PRIMARY CARE

Patient-centered Medical Homes (PCMHs):								
Accredited by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)			✓					Sep. 30, 2016
Accredited by the Utilization Review Accreditation Commission (URAC)			✓					Ongoing
Accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC) Must already be accredited with TJC in order to apply for PCMH recognition within TJC			✓					Ongoing
Accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC)			✓					Ongoing
Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Exceptions: RHCs			P					July 29, 2016
Rural Health Clinic (RHC) Exceptions: FQHCs			✓					July 29, 2016
Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+), Track 1 Exceptions: Pediatric or concierge practices, RHCs or FQHCs	✓	150	P/R	✓			✓	Sep. 15, 2016
Comprehensive Primary Care Plus, Track 2 Exceptions: Pediatric or concierge practices, RHCs or FQHCs	✓	150	P/R	✓			✓	Sep. 15, 2016

SPECIALTY

Comprehensive ESRD Care (CEC) Model, 1-sided Track (Non-LDOs Only) Exceptions: MSSP		350			P	✓		July 15, 2016
Comprehensive ESRD Care Model, 2-sided Track (LDOs & Non-LDOs) Exceptions: MSSP	✓	350			P	✓		July 15, 2016
Oncology Care Model, 1-sided Track Exceptions: Prospective Payment System (PPS)-exempt, Critical Access Hospitals (CAH), FQHCs, RHCs & Maryland hospitals/physicians			R	✓	✓		✓	June 18, 2015
Oncology Care Model, 2-sided Track Exceptions: PPS-exempt, CAHs, FQHCs, RHCs & Maryland hospitals/physicians	✓		R	✓	✓			June 18, 2015
Bundled Payments for Care Improvement (BPCI) Initiatives, Models 2 & 3			R		✓			April 18, 2014
Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Initiatives, Model 4			P		✓			April 18, 2014
Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) Model Exceptions: BPCI for Lower Extremity Joint Replacements (LEJR) Models 1, 2 and 4			R		✓			Mandatory start date June 2016
Patient-centered Specialty Practice (PCSP):								
Accredited by the National Committee for Quality Assurance			✓					Dec. 31, 2016

GLOSSARY

Management fee: Fee provided for the management of specific patients and/or activities associated with certain patient performances.

Performance incentives: Payments based on performance against specific metrics that are in addition to other payments provided for services rendered.

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Independent research performed by Matt Chock, healthcare consultant.

Illustration by David Barber. Design by Gabrielle LaMarr LeMee. Art direction by Leah VanWhy. Senior art direction by Liz Kellogg.

Research is current as of December 2016. Please contact athenainsight@athenahealth.com with updates or information that may be relevant to this document. This document is intended for educational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice or opinion.