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In October 2015, CMS released the Meaningful Use Final Rule for years 2015-2017.

Stage 1 eligible professionals are now required to meet Objectives 5 and 7 to demonstrate Meaningful Use in 2015. Previously, Objective 7 was optional; Objective 5 was only applicable to Stage 2 eligible professionals.

Stage 2 eligible professionals must take notice of changes in bold to Objectives 5 and 7.

To view a table of these two objectives and suggested documentation to comply with the rule, please visit crisphealth.org

Objective 5: Health Information Exchange (Summary of Care)

Objective 5 requires eligible professionals who transition or refer their patient to another setting of care or provider of care to:

- (1) use their EHR to create a summary of care record; and**
- (2) electronically transmit the summary of care to a receiving provider for more than 10 percent of all transitions and referrals during the EHR reporting period.**

Providers scheduled to demonstrate Stage 1 in 2015 may claim exclusion from Objective 5 because there is no equivalent measure in Stage 1.

Providers scheduled to demonstrate Stage 2 in 2015 must meet this measure or may claim exclusion if they transfer or refer their patients to a different setting fewer than 100 times during the EHR reporting period.

Please note that most EHR products now offer Direct messaging. Direct messaging is a secure email solution that allows providers to send patient information to other providers who do not use the same EHR. Contact your EHR vendor or CRISP, the Maryland Health Information Exchange, to create a Direct account and start exchanging patient's clinical information. If you are unsure whether the clinical colleagues that you collaborate with have a Direct address, contact CRISP to help you find out.

Although there is no limitation to the type of electronic transport mechanism, faxing does not count as method to electronically send a summary of care.

Objective 7: Medication Reconciliation

Objective 7 requires eligible professionals to perform medication reconciliation for more than 50 percent of transitions of care in which the patient is transitioned into the care of the eligible professional.

Providers scheduled to Stage 1 in 2015 may claim exclusion from Objective 7 if they did not intend to select the Stage 1 Medication Reconciliation menu objective.

Providers scheduled to Stage 2 in 2015 must meet this measure or claim exclusion if they do not receive any transitions of care during the EHR reporting period.

A five-issue series will discuss the ten objectives that all eligible providers must meet for demonstrating Meaningful Use in 2015. This is the second of five issues.

To view more information regarding program requirements for 2015, please visit the CMS Meaningful Use website.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact our Meaningful Use Support team at 877-952-7477.

You can also email support@crisphealth.org.