



**New York State Department of Health
Medicaid Incentive Payment System (MIPS)
External Stakeholder Feedback**

New York State

Health Foundation

April 8, 2010 | 12:45 – 1:30 p.m.

New York State Department of Health

99 Washington Avenue

Albany, New York

Introduction

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), signed into law on February 17, 2009, by President Obama, provided billions of dollars to states to implement Electronic Health Record (EHR) technologies. Administered through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Provider Incentive Payment Program provides incentive payments to eligible Medicaid and Medicare providers and hospitals to achieve “meaningful use” of EHR technologies. To inform and clarify the incentive payment program to the Medicaid provider community, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) Office of Health Insurance Programs provided more than thirty (30) presentations to stakeholder groups from throughout New York State. A number of stakeholder groups, in response, offered comment on the incentive program.

This document represents a summary of comments from the New York State Health Foundation.

New York State Department of Health – Office of Health Insurance Programs

James J. Figge, M.D., M.B.A., Chair Medical Director
Phyllis Johnson, HIT Policy Coordinator

New York State Department of Health – Office of Health Information Technology Transformation (OHITT)

Roberto Martinez, MD, Medical Director

New York State Health Foundation

Deborah Zahn, MPH, Senior Policy Director, Diabetes Policy Center

New York State Technology Enterprise Corporation (Program Consultants)

Peter Poletto, Business Architect



The New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth) is a private, statewide foundation that aims to improve New York's healthcare system by expanding health insurance coverage, containing healthcare costs, increasing access to high-quality services, and addressing public and community health.

Reaching Out

The New York State Health Foundation has reached out to numerous organizations regarding Health Information Technology. They have had conversations with providers, the Academy of Physicians, payers, and others. NYSHealth reminded OHIP that technology is an ongoing process requiring regular updating and maintenance.

A Patient-Centered Approach

Regarding meaningful use, NYSHealth encouraged OHIP to consider patient-centered measures that look at patient outcomes. NYSHealth's work with diabetes intervention is a good example of a patient-centered effort that tracks a great deal of information that ultimately improves the patient's life, while dramatically reducing costs.

Another benchmark offered up by NYSHealth was the patient-centered medical home model advocated by NCQA. Physicians receiving any kind of incentive payment are under a heavy reporting burden, often providing the same information over and over again to different agencies. By aligning efforts, this administrative burden can be lifted, and subsequently, more providers will come on line with the program.



Funding

NYSHealth supports the notion of funding RHITECs with administrative funding and including training on the Wagner chronic disease model, as well as how to build a patient-centered medical home. As Deborah Zahn said, “There has to be some type of knowledge and skills enhancement and development relative to quality improvement.”

