



NYACP

New York Chapter

American College of Physicians

Advancing Internal Medicine; Improving Patient Care

# Comments and Considerations for NYS Patient Centered Medicaid HIT/HIE Plan

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# Who We Are

## *Education, Advocacy, and Quality*

New York State's largest medical specialty organization.

NYACP represents over 12,000 physicians practicing general and specialty Internal Medicine.

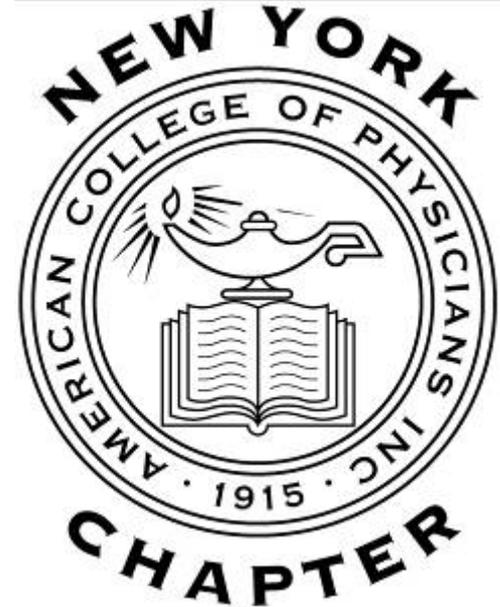
NYACP is dedicated to advancing the specialty of Internal Medicine in New York State - assisting our members and our patients through advocacy, education, networking, and communication.



# Who We Are:

## *Shared Goals with ACP*

- To advocate responsible positions on individual health and on public policy relating to healthcare for the benefit of the public, our patients, the medical profession and our members;
- To serve the professionals needs of the membership, support healthy lives and improve the practice environment for physicians, and advance internal medicine as a career;
- To promote and conduct research to enhance the quality of practice, the education and continuing education of internists, and the attractiveness of internal medicine to physicians and to the public;
- To recognize excellence and distinguished contributions to internal medicine; and
- To unify the many voices of internal medicine and its subspecialties for the benefit of our patients, our members, and our profession.



# Where We Stand On: *Health Information Technology*

As an organization, we strongly believe that the acquisition and use of health information technology will help revolutionize the health care system by providing physicians with real-time clinically relevant information necessary to improve patient safety and lower costs.

We firmly believe the adoption of health information technology and electronic medical records will lead to a higher standard of care within the United States and greater participation by patients in their own care. We applaud and support positive movement in this important area.

# Meaningful Use: *Concerns*

NYACP submitted comments to CMS for the Medicaid/Medicare Meaningful Use incentive program.

Timeframe to adopt is unrealistic

The criteria for achieving meaningful use of EHRs is too aggressive

Some criteria will not result in significant care improvements given the current state of technology development

Quality measures must be meaningful and actionable

Omission of an incentive program for hospital-based physicians and house staff will reduce the effectiveness of EMRs.

Need for alignment of other emerging incentive programs



# Timeframes:

## *Need to be Realistic*

- If proceed at current pace the satisfaction, adoption and overall impact will suffer
  - Current critical primary care physician shortage
- Need adequate time for practice redesign and workflow in a safe and efficient manner
- Importance of Education/Training by Specialty Organizations
  - Physician Input and Feedback



# Criteria:

## *Must Make Sense to Physicians*

- Compliance thresholds unnecessary
  - Physician attestation
- 3 Challenges to Practices
  - Adoption of Health IT
  - Care Coordination
  - Practice Transformation
- Inclusiveness
  - Must have critical mass
  - Challenges
    - Current inadequate NYS Fee-for-Service base rate
      - Federal Reform increase to 100% in 2013
    - Disparities between thresholds between Hospitals (10%) / Physicians (30%)
    - Only 11% of NYS Physicians will meet 30% threshold

# Criteria:

## *Must Impact Patients in a Substantive Manner*

- Electronic copies of records for patients
- Electronic Medical Reconciliation
- Growth Charts
- Interconnectivity
- Notification of Results



# Criteria:

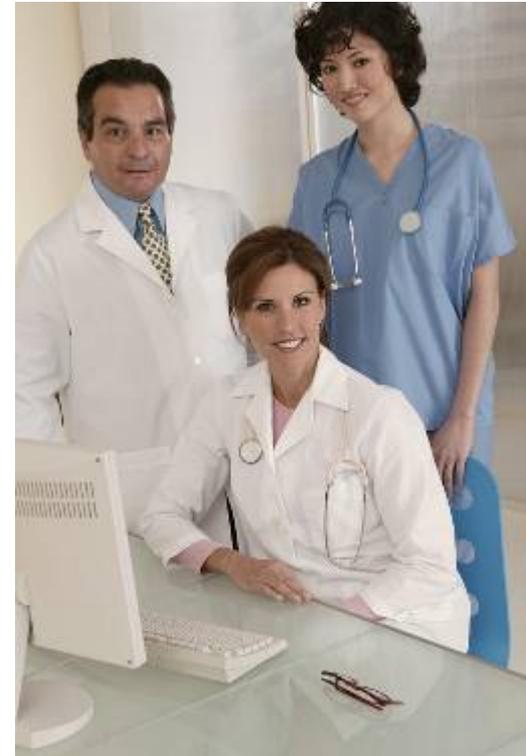
## *Not As Easy As it Seems*

- Harmonization of measures
  - Across states, payers, and government agencies
  - Number and focus of measures should be consistent with PQRI and PCMH
- Test the methodology for collection of data
- Review it for integrity, accuracy, and proven outcomes
- Collect Meaningful Data through Quality Measures

# Bridging the Gap:

## *Alignment with other Incentive Programs*

- Consequences of divergent criteria
  - Added burden
  - Cost of State customized software
- Coordination of EHR requirements
  - NCQA's criteria for Patient Centered Medical Home
  - Electronic Prescribing



# Maximizing Impact: *Through Maximum Participation*

- Hospital Based Physicians
  - Housestaff
  - Clinics
- Specialists
- Access to Funding to Improve Care Transitions

# Privacy:

## *A Common Set of Rules and Regulations*

- NYACP Role in Privacy and Security Development
- Represent physician perspective



# Security:

## *Leveraging Existing Infrastructures*

- Alignment of protocols for security procedures and passwords
  - (Public health sector ie, HPN)
- Passwords assigned by fiscal agent - concern



# Special Populations:

## *Ensuring Access for the Most Vulnerable*

- Populations with special needs
  - Behavioral Health
  - HIV
  - Lower socioeconomic status

