



MaineCare Services

*An Office of the
Department of Health and Human Services*



The MaineCare Initiative for Electronic Health Information Technology

Maine's Collaborative Approach for HIT

2009 Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH)

Three Prong Approach:

- Office of the State Coordinator (OSC)
 - Maine's OSC coordinates HIT for the state's overall health care system and for the "exchange" of health data (HealthInfoNet)
- State-administered Medicaid Health Information Technology Program
 - MaineCare administers an HIT plan and provides incentive payments for Medicaid providers and hospitals
- Federally administered CMS Medicare payment program

HITECH Works with, and Builds upon, Existing Initiatives

- Broadband Technology – Maine’s ConnectME Authority
 - Maps the availability of high speed internet access in Maine
 - Provides grants for public/private projects that leverage federal and private funds to improve access and use of broadband
- Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (DHHS) - Telemedicine
 - Telephone to real-time video and internet connection that provides “distant” health care delivery
- Other Initiatives include electronic Pharmacy E-prescribing, Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) grant, and others

Highlights of the Incentive Payment Program

- Incentive payments are paid to providers for using certified computerized EHR in a meaningful way.

| Type | Payments to eligible MaineCare providers and hospitals throughout the life of the program |
|--------------------|--|
| Eligible Providers | \$63,750 in Medicaid payments per provider \$44,000 in Medicare payments per provider |
| Hospitals | Estimated total of \$145M combined Medicaid and Medicare payments across all eligible Maine hospitals* |

- Currently, less than one-half of Maine's health care providers use computerized EHR
- MaineCare estimates that between 800 to 1,200 Medicaid providers will be eligible to receive EHR incentive payments
- The vast majority of the 39 Maine hospitals will be eligible for payments
- Incentive payments are 100% federal funds

* Baker, Newman, Noyes. (July, 2010). *An Assessment of Electronic Health Records Meaningful Use Incentive Payments: Maine Hospitals.*

Timeline of MaineCare Incentive Payment Program

- January 2010: Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) approved Maine's pre-planning document
- January 2011: Maine submitted its final plan to CMS for approval
- Late Summer/Early Fall 2011: MaineCare is targeting to launch the program and begin processing applications
- Mid-Winter 2011/2012: MaineCare expects to begin issuing payments as early as mid-winter

Providers that are eligible for MaineCare Incentive Payments

| Type of Provider | % of patients that need to be Medicaid |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Physicians •Dentists •Certified Nurse Midwives •Physician Assistants (PA) •Nurse Practitioners | 30% |
| Pediatricians | At least 20% |

Benefits of the Incentive Payment Program

- Private/Public sectors benefit as payments go to health care providers and hospitals who work directly with private sector companies to develop and implement technology
- Incentive payments can reimburse providers and hospitals who have already implemented health information technology
- Incentive payments are 100% federal funding; administration costs are 90% federal funding (10% state share can be funded through 'in-kind' contributions)
- Flexibility
 - Providers and hospitals choose the software and type of technology that best meets their needs
 - After states and providers gave feedback to federal agencies, program was recently revised to make it more administratively simple and efficient to implement and operate
- Funds and the new technology particularly benefit rural states, like Maine, to improve health outcomes and efficiency of health care system
- MaineCare is part of collaborative effort with other public/private partnerships in Maine that leverage and maximize use of funds and return on investment

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