

KY REC Tip for the Kentucky Medicaid EHR Incentive Program (Promoting Interoperability)

Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement

What does Stage 3 require for Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement?

Use certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) to engage with patients or their authorized representative about the patient's care.

Eligible Professionals (EP) must attest to all three measures and must meet the thresholds for at least two measures to meet the objective. If the EP meets the criteria for exclusion from two measures, they must meet the threshold for the one remaining measure. If they meet the criteria for exclusion from all three measures, they may be excluded from meeting this objective.

Measure 1: More than 5% of all unique patients (or their authorized representative) seen by the EP actively engage with the EHR made accessible by the EP and either –

1. View, download, or transmit to a third party their health information; or
2. Access their health information through the use of an Application Programming Interface (API) that can be used by the applications chosen by the patient and configured to the API in the EP's CEHRT; or
3. A combination of 1 and 2

Measure 2: For more than 5% of all unique patients seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period, a secure message was sent using the electronic messaging function of CEHRT to the patient (or the patient-authorized representative), or in response to a secure message sent by the patient.

Measure 3: Patient generated health data or data from a non-clinical setting is incorporated into the CEHRT for more than 5% of unique patients seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period.

Exclusion for Measures 1, 2 & 3:

- Applies if the EP has no office visits during the EHR reporting period.



Definition of Terms:

Application Programming Interface (API) – A set of programming protocols established for multiple processes. APIs may be enabled by a provider or provider organization to provide the patient with access to their health information through a third-party application with more flexibility than is often found in many current “patient portals.”

Patient Generated Health Data – Data generated by a patient or a patient’s authorized representative.

Things to Consider:

- EPs must use 2015 CEHRT
- EPs must attest to all three measures and must meet the thresholds for at least **two** measures to meet the objective
- In order to meet this objective, the following information must be available:
 - Patient name
 - Provider’s name and office contact information
 - Current and past problem list
 - Procedures
 - Laboratory test results
 - Current medication list and medication history
 - Current medication allergy list and medication allergy history
 - Vital signs (height, weight, blood pressure, BMI, growth charts)
 - Smoking status
 - Demographic information (preferred language, sex, race, ethnicity, date of birth)
 - Care plan field(s), including goals and instructions
 - Any known care team members including the primary care provider of record
- Measure 1: API
 - In simpler terms: An API is an interface that allows unrelated software programs to communicate with one another. They act as bridges between two applications, allowing data to flow regardless of how each application was originally designed.
 - Example:
 - Third-party travel planning sites like Expedia or Kayak do not generate data on their own to deliver comparisons of flight prices from ten or twelve different airlines. They simply use the API provided by each individual airline to plug into the flight scheduling software for each company and pull information into a single view for the end-user.
 - Additional information on APIs can be found at the following links:
 - https://www.healthit.gov/api-education-module/story_html5.html
 - https://www.healthit.gov/api-education-module/story_content/external_files/hhs_transcript_module.pdf



- Measure 3: Patient Generated Health Data
 - Examples include:
 - Social service data, data generated by a patient or patient's authorized representative, advance directives, medical device data, home health monitoring data and fitness monitoring data. In addition, the sources of data vary and may include mobile applications for tracking health and nutrition, home health devices with tracking capabilities such as scales and blood pressure monitors, wearable devices such as activity trackers or heart monitors, patient-reported outcome data, and other methods of input for patient and non-clinical setting generated health data. Telehealth platform, personal health records, social determinants of health screening modules, long term care/post-acute care coordination platforms might also be considered.
 - Data may be incorporated in a structured format/existing field within the EHR or by other means such as attachments, links and text references.
 - Work with your vendor to determine a workflow that captures patient generated health information.

Best Practices:

- Contact vendor to see what API is available within your EHR, and begin implementation and education with patients
- Check CHPL website to see if your vendor is listed with their API documentation at the following link: <https://chpl.healthit.gov/#/collections/apiDocumentation>
- Determine what patient generated health data will be collected from patients
- Consider distributing written education to patients/patient representative on how to access the portal and submit PGHD
- Receive proper training from vendor on use of patient portal and how to send the necessary information
- Determine if the information is automatically sent to the portal or if you will need to manually push the information to the portal
- Determine how you will invite patients to the patient portal; collect email addresses from all patients seen by the EP
- Educate patients on use and how to navigate patient portal
- Educate staff on the importance of the patient portal, and how they can better educate patients
- For additional guidance on Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement, please contact your HIT Advisor

CMS EP Specification Sheet – Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement:
<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/medicaid-ep-2020-coordination-care-objective-6.pdf>