

# Provider Education

## Medicare Part B



### Ask the Contractor Teleconference June 28<sup>th</sup> 2007 Topic: PQRI Questions & Answers

**Question 1:** Where can I find a list of the PQRI value codes?

**Answer 1:** They may be found on the CMS website here:

[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI/15\\_MeasuresCodes.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI/15_MeasuresCodes.asp#TopOfPage)

**Question 2:** How much do the value codes pay?

**Answer 2:** They do not have a value in and of themselves, rather, once you have billed 3 or more at 80% of the patients who are eligible for the PQRI value code (or at least 80% if billing for only 1 or 2 value codes during your reporting period) then you will receive 1.5% bonus payment subject to the cap.

**Question 3:** What if 3 or more codes don't apply to my specialty?

**Answer 3:** If less than 3 of the value codes are the only type that apply to your practice, then you need to make sure that those codes that do apply are submitted for 80% of the eligible Medicare patients. You may also be audited to verify that only a limited number of codes applied to your practice.

**Question 4:** How long is the reporting period?

**Answer 4:** From July 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 until December 31<sup>st</sup> 2007

**Question 5:** When will I get my bonus payment?

**Answer 5:** At the beginning of 2008.

**Question 6:** Will the check go to me or my company?

**Answer 6:** The check will go to the tax ID of whoever's in item 33.

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**Question 7:** Do I need an NPI to participate in the PQRI program?

**Answer 7:** Yes. The reporting is being collected by the NPI. If no NPI is submitted for the provider, it will not count towards the 80% threshold.

**Question 8:** Do I have to use a modifier with my value code?

**Answer 8:** It depends on the value code. Some will require them; some will require no modifier billed with the value code. Please view CMS' PQRI webpage and verify with each of your value codes of what their requirements are.

**Question 9:** Can I rebill if I forgot my value code?

**Answer 9:** No, you cannot rebill your claims to add the value codes. This is not accepted by the Medicare program.

**Question 10:** How do I enroll to participate in PQRI?

**Answer 10:** There is no need to register for the PQRI program. You are in the program when you submit your first PQRI code.

**Question 11:** When I submit with an NPI number, do I also have to include my Medicare legacy number?

**Answer 11:** No, that is not a requirement. Due to our contingency plan, from now until otherwise notified, you may submit Medicare claims with NPI only, Medicare legacy only, or a combination of both. Since our PQRI program requires the NPI be submitted as the rendering ID, that at least must be on the claim form. The Medicare legacy number is not required for the value codes and we do urge providers to start testing claims with NPI only.

**Question 12:** What should I do if my system won't let me submit the value code as a \$0.00 line?

**Answer 12:** Then please submit your PQRI value code as \$0.01 if your system will not allow you to have a no-pay line.

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**Question 13:** Is there a worksheet that I could use in my patient's files?

**Answer 13:** Yes there is. Please view the following link on CMS' website & download "Data Collection Worksheets" [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI/31\\_PQRIToolKit.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI/31_PQRIToolKit.asp#TopOfPage)

**Question 14:** Will the Medicare patients know they are in the PQRI program?

**Answer 14:** They will receive a message on the Medicare notices informing them that the value codes are informational only and they should not be charged for them.

**Question 15:** Can I submit a PQRI code for Medicare patients in a Medicare approved HMO?

**Answer 15:** No. The PQRI program is only open for Fee-For-Service in the Traditional Medicare program.

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