Health Information Management
Stage 1 Meaningful Use Core Set
Smoking Status

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to specify Indian Health Service (IHS) policy and procedures related to Meaningful Use Smoking Status.

POLICY: It is IHS policy that facilities establish both policy and procedures that pertain to the Smoking Status in the Resource and Patient Management System Electronic Health Record (RPMS EHR).

OBJECTIVE: Record smoking status for patients 13 years or older.

MEASURE: More than 50% of all unique patients 13 years old or older seen by the eligible provider (EP) or admitted to the eligible hospital's (EH) or Critical Access Hospital's (CAH) inpatient or emergency department (POS 21 or 23*) have smoking status recorded as structured data.

DEFINITIONS:

> **Unique Patient**: If a patient is admitted to an EH's or CAH's inpatient or emergency department (POS 21 or 23) or seen by an EP more than once during the EHR reporting period, then for purposes of measurement that patient is only counted once in the denominator for the measure. All the measures relying on the term ''unique patient'' relate to what is contained in the patient's medical record. Not all of this information will need to be updated or even be needed by the provider at every patient encounter. This is especially true for patients whose encounter frequency is such that they would see the same provider multiple times in the same EHR reporting period.

PROCEDURES: The following procedures shall be followed by the Health Information Management professional:

1. Monitor documentation of smoking status in the EHR with one of the following:

   a. Current smoker, every day

   b. Current smoker, some day

   c. Current smoker, status unknown

   d. Previous (former) smoker

   e. Never smoked

   f. Smoking status unknown

Note: Ceremonial Use Only and Cessation-Smoker factors do not count toward the MU measure.

2. Educate the clinician that they are responsible for the management of current and accurate documentation of a Smoking Status for each patient.

3. Ensure that at least one entry of a Smoking Status exist for each patient.

4. A facility specific policy should be in place to notify clinical staff of the requirement to document Smoking Status for patients 13 years old or older.

5. If smoking status is documented in the note but not entered as a health factor, add the smoking status in PCC using the Mnemonic HF (Health Factors).

*POS (Place of Service) Codes:

- **21 – Inpatient hospital**: A facility, other than psychiatric, which primarily provides diagnostic, therapeutic (both surgical and nonsurgical), and rehabilitation services by, or under, the supervision of physicians to patients admitted for a variety of medical conditions.

- **23 – Emergency room-hospital**: A portion of a hospital where emergency diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury is provided.