

### REMINDER: HARDSHIP EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS DUE JULY 1, 2014

July 2014							
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Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has released a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that would allow EPs, EHs, and CAHs to use the 2011 Certified EHR (CEHRT), 2014 CEHRT, or a combination of 2011 and 2014 CEHRT to demonstrate MU in FY/CY 2014. However, the NPRM is not final; therefore, EPs that are unable attest to MU by Oct. 1, 2014, should consider applying for a hardship exemption. **EPs who choose to apply for this hardship must do so by July 1, 2014**.

See the flow chart on page 2 to determine whether an EP will be subject to the 2015 Medicare payment adjustment.

For more information, visit <u>http://www.cms.gov/</u> regulations-and-guidance/legislation/ EHRincentiveprograms/paymentadj\_hardship.html.

**Note:** October 1 is the attestation deadline for EPs in their first participation year to avoid the 2015 payment adjustment. However, EPs can still demonstrate MU for any 90-day period through December 31, 2014, and earn an incentive payment for CY 2014.

# Per the NPRM, beginning in FY/CY 2015, all EHs and EPs will be required to report using 2014 CEHRT.

For more information about the NPRM, visit http://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/ Press-releases/2014-Press-releases-items/2014-05-20.html. Contact your national MU consultant for assistance with the Hardship Exemption or for questions about the NPRM. (See <u>http://www.ihs.gov/meaningfuluse/</u> resourcesoverview/resourcesstaff/.

## **REQUIRED PATCHES FOR 2014 CEHRT**

After receiving official notification that the 2014 RPMS EHR has been certified, sites will need to install various patches to have the complete 2014 version.



### Visit the MU web site at

the next issue.

http://www.ihs.gov/meaningfuluse/certificationoverview to learn about the relationships among the patches, associated applications, performance measures, and related certification criteria.

Note that the documents on the web site are in draft form; check back for finalized lists after the 2014 RPMS EHR certification is officially announced.

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The next issue will be distributed in July 2014. Submit articles for publication by July 11, 2014.



