

NPO Pharmacy Corner

May 2, 2011

All of the e-Prescribing vendors that were reported on the NPO survey have checked out to be Medicare compliant. Great news!

I would like to recognize Dr. Mark Leslie and the Hand Surgeons in Traverse City for working hard to go online with e-Prescribing. We appreciate your hard work!

I came across this interesting explanation of the Medicare e-Prescribing incentive/penalty. I hope this serves to clarify these issues:

Understanding the Medicare ePrescribing Reimbursement Adjustment

Medicare Providers who do not ePrescribe in 2011 can face reduced reimbursement for the next two years on their ambulatory care CMS reimbursements.

A Provider who prescribes electronically just 25 times, is eligible for a 1% bonus in Medicare reimbursement for ambulatory care.

A provider who fails to ePrescribe in 2011 stands to lose 3.5% of Medicare reimbursement; not only the 1% 2011 bonus, but penalties of 1% in 2012 and 1.5% in 2013. **That's a loss of \$7,000 based on an annual Medicare reimbursement of \$200,000.**

To avoid an adjustment of 1% to their fee schedule **for 2012**, Eligible Providers must report that they have **ePrescribed for 10 unique events** (10 Medicare patient office visits) **by June 30, 2011**.

To avoid an adjustment of 1.5% to their fee schedule **for 2013**, Eligible Providers must report that they have **ePrescribed for 25 unique events by December 31, 2011**.

Group Practices who have self-nominated to report as a group for the PQRI incentive AND the ePrescribing incentive, must ePrescribe for 75-2500 unique events (depending on practice size) by June 30, 2011 to avoid the 2012 adjustment and by December 31, 2011 to avoid the 2013 adjustment. Providers who are members of Group Practices who have not self-nominated for the PQRI AND ePrescribing incentive, must report individually for the ePrescribing incentive.