

Performance Category Evaluations for MIPS APMs



Improvement Activities (IA)

MACRA introduces a new area of evaluating providers through the CPIA portion of MIPS. As explained below, ACOs will not have to report any CPIA information in 2019 and will receive full credit for this performance category.

The subcategories of CPIA include the following:

- (1) Expanded practice access, such as same day appointments for urgent needs and after-hours access to clinician advice.
- (2) Population management, such as monitoring health conditions of individuals to provide timely health care interventions or participation in a Qualified Clinical Data Registry.
- (3) Care coordination, such as timely communication of test results, timely exchange of clinical information to patients or other clinicians, and use of remote monitoring or telehealth.
- (4) Beneficiary engagement, such as the establishment of care plans for individuals with complex care needs, beneficiary self-management assessment and training, and using shared decision-making mechanisms.
- (5) Patient safety and practice assessment, such as via the use of clinical or surgical checklists and practice assessments related to maintaining certification.
- (6) Participation in an APM.
- (7) Achieving health equity, such as for MIPS eligible clinicians that achieve high quality for underserved populations, including persons with behavioral health conditions, racial and ethnic minorities, sexual and gender minorities, people with disabilities, people living in rural areas, and people in geographic Health Professional Shortage Areas.
- (8) Emergency preparedness and response, such as measuring MIPS eligible clinician participation in the Medical Reserve Corps, measuring registration in the Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals, measuring relevant reserve and active duty uniformed services MIPS eligible clinician activities,

MIPS Improvement Activities Performance Category for ACO Participants

and measuring MIPS eligible clinician volunteer participation in domestic or international humanitarian medical relief work.

- (9) Integrated behavioral and mental health, such as measuring or evaluating such practices as: co-location of behavioral health and primary care services; shared/integrated behavioral health and primary care records; cross-training of MIPS eligible clinicians, and integrating behavioral health with primary care to address substance use disorders or other behavioral health conditions, as well as integrating mental health with primary care.

We are pleased that CMS provides ACOs with full credit for this performance category automatically. No attestations or registrations/reporting are required to earn the full credit in this category. These details are outlined in this CMS [resource](#). CMS states that the agency will continue to [post](#) an evaluation annually to determine what credit is provided automatically to each APM. As of the date of publication, the 2019 resource has not yet been provided by CMS. ACOs were awarded with full credit in this performance category in both 2017 and 2018.