

Under HITECH, physicians can qualify for up to \$44,000 in Medicare bonus incentives if they demonstrate “meaningful use” of an Electronic Health Record. The definition of “meaningful use” is still being worked out by ONCHIT but will likely include e-prescribing, chart sharing and quality of care measurements. Practice Fusion has participated in the public process by which “meaningful use” criteria are being discussed, and our EHR is guaranteed to meet these criteria.

The charts below show the timeline for Medicare and Medicaid bonus payouts under HITECH. As shown in the first table, a physician who can demonstrate “meaningful use” of an EMR in 2011 would be eligible to receive \$18,000 from Medicare for the first year and \$44,000 total through 2015. Incentives are reduced for adoption after 2012. Physicians whose practices feature a high volume of Medicaid patients can qualify for up to \$65,000 in incentives.

Beginning in 2015, physicians who elect not to use an EHR will be penalized, starting with a 1% Medicare fee reduction. Those who do not adopt an EHR after 2017 will face a 3% Medicare fee reduction.