

2011 Electronic Prescribing Incentive Program – Adoption/Use of Medication Electronic Prescribing Measure Release Notes

CMS is pleased to announce the release of the 2011 Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program – Adoption/Use of Medication Electronic Prescribing Measure Release Notes. Measure developers, professional organizations, and other eRx stakeholders have provided comment, clarifications, and technical corrections. The list below details changes to this existing measure made since the release of the 2010 eRx Measure Specification.

- **Hardship Codes Updates**
 - Added language and two hardship G-codes:
 - G8642: The eligible professional practices in a rural area without sufficient high speed internet access and requests a hardship exemption from the application of the payment adjustment under section 1848(a)(5)(A) of the Social Security Act
 - G8643: The eligible professional practices in an area without sufficient available pharmacies for electronic prescribing and requests a hardship exemption from the application of the payment adjustment under section 1848(a)(5)(A) of the Social Security Act
- **Payment Adjustment**
 - Added "Another option for analysis when the eligible professional does not have prescribing privileges is reporting G8644 via claims. If this code is utilized, the eligible professional may not be considered for a payment adjustment."
- **Description Updates**
 - Removed "The availability of an eRx system to receive tiered formulary information, if available, would meet this requirement for 2010."
- **Instruction Updates**
 - Added "Successful electronic prescribers who also have at least 10% of their Medicare Part B charges comprised of the codes in the denominator of the measure will be incentive eligible."
 - Removed "The diagnosis associated with the patient encounter that requires the eRx may be used to report the eRx G-code."
- **Formatting Updates**
 - Denominator Statement and coding has been moved to follow Instructions
 - Numerator Statement and coding has been moved to follow Denominator Statement
- **Numerator Updates**
 - Deleted "the following G-code applies to"
 - Added "an eRx event has occurred during"
- **Rationale Updates**
 - Deleted entire rationale
 - Added new rationale

- **Definitions Updates**
 - Added clarification "(Faxes initiated from the eligible professional's office do not qualify as electronic prescribing).
 - Added to DME Supplies – Durable Medical Equipment

- **Evidence Supporting the Criterion of the Quality Measure Updates**
 - Added information from Bates et al.
 - Removed information from Roland, M.O. et al.

- **Global Edits:**
 - Replaced e-prescribing with electronic prescribing or eRx throughout the document
 - Changed "EP" to eligible professional