



## **EPrescribe Informational Sheet**

### **General Info Regarding ePrescribe:**

To participate in the 2011 ePrescribing incentive program, individual eligible physicians may choose to report on their adoption and use of a qualified ePrescribing system by submitting information on one ePrescribing measure, Gcode G8553: 1) to CMS on their Medicare part B claims; 2) to a qualified registry; or 3) to CMS via a qualified electronic health record (EHR) product.

In order to receive incentive payments for ePrescribing in 2011, eligible physicians must report the ePrescribing Gcode G8553 at least 25 times for Medicare office visits, as well as the other listed services for the calendar year for applicable CPT codes included in the CMS ePrescribing measure specifications.

For those who ePrescribe Medicare Part D prescriptions and prescription-related information, CMS will continue to allow computer generated facsimile transmissions through Jan, 1, 2012. However, in order to qualify for the ePrescribing incentive payment program, the physician cannot issue the prescription via facsimile on his or her end. The prescription must be generated electronically from the physician's ePrescribing system or tool even if the prescription is ultimately converted into a fax on the pharmacy end.

### **System Requirements for ePrescribing:**

Eligible physicians must use a qualified ePrescribing system. A qualified ePrescribing system is one that is capable of all of the following:

- Generating a complete active medication list incorporating electronic data received from applicable pharmacies and pharmacy benefit managers if available.
- Selecting medications, printing prescriptions, electronically transmitting prescriptions and conducting all alerts.
- Providing information related to the availability of lower cost, therapeutically appropriate alternatives (if any). The ability of the system to receive tiered formulary information, if available, would suffice.
- Providing information on formulary or tiered formulary medications, patient eligibility and authorization requirements received electronically from the patient's drug plan.

### **Incentive programs:**

An eligible professional may not participate in both the Medicare ePrescribing incentive program and the EHR incentive program. However to avoid penalties in 2011 and 2012, eligible professionals must report ePrescribing activity according to program details even if they participate in the EHR incentive program.

Eligible physicians can participate in the PQRS incentive program, even if they are taking advantage of the ePrescribing or EHR incentive programs.