

PENALTIES ADD UP

This year, Medicare's quality reporting initiatives shift to penalties for physicians who don't participate or don't meet the criteria for the programs. Here's how the penalties tacked on to your Medicare fees could stack up.

Year	Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records	Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS)*	Value-Based Payment Modifier*	Deficit Reduction Sequester	Total Possible Payment Cuts
2015	-1% to -2%	-1.5%	-1% Groups of 100 or more based on 2013 data	-2%	-5.5% to -6.5%
2016	-2%	-2%	-2% Groups of 10 or more based on 2014 data	-2%	-8%
2017	-3%	-2%	-4% All physicians based on 2015 data	-2%	-11%
2018	-4%	-2%	n/a† Based on 2016 data	-2%	-12% or more
2019	-5%	-2%	n/a† Based on 2017 data	-2%	-13% or more

*Based on cost/quality data from two years prior.

†Not available: Adjustments made in future years are determined by annual federal rulemaking.

Source: American Medical Association