



To: Providers of North Carolina

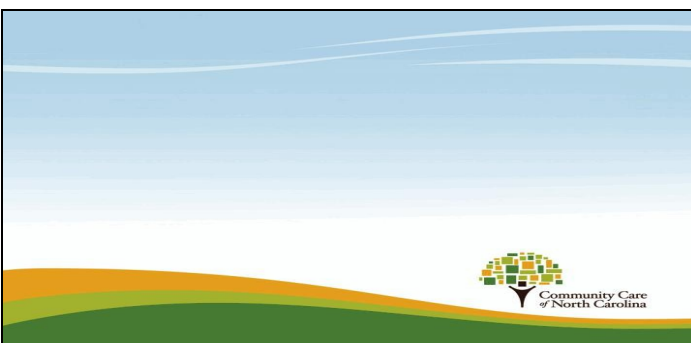
**From: Kim Roberts, PharmD
E-prescribing Program Manager**

Date: January 20, 2012

Subject: 2012 Medicare e-Prescribing Program Summary

CMS sent out an email the last week of 2011 that stated that they would be unable to provide a 2012 Electronic Prescribing Incentive Program Feedback Report due to an unexpected high volume of hardship exemption requests. CMS recommends reviewing the remittance advice for claims submitted on or after January 1, 2012. Eligible professionals and group practices (GPRO) participating in the eRx GPRO that receive the 2012 eRx payment adjustment will see the term “LE” on their remittance advice for all Medicare Part B services rendered Sunday, January 1, 2012 through Monday, December 31, 2012. Any questions regarding accuracy of the payment adjustment should be directed to Palmetto or to the Quality Net help desk (qnet support@sdps.org or 866-288-8912).

- If an eligible provider is **ONLY** trying to avoid the 2013 payment adjustment, they may report the G8553 code with **ANY** billing code on a minimum of 10 encounters between January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 and this can only be submitted via **CLAIMS**. (This mainly applies to the providers that are applying for the Medicare EHR incentive.) Payment adjustment for 2013 will be 1.5%
- If an eligible provider would like to receive the 2012 e-prescribing incentive, then it is recommended that they submit the G8553 code with the billing codes listed under denominator codes on http://www.cms.gov/ERxIncentive/03_How_To_Get_Started.asp#TopOfPage a minimum number of 25 encounters between January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 and this can be submitted via claims, EHR, or Registry. This would also make them exempt from any 2014 payment adjustments. Incentive payment for 2012 will be 1%..
- GPRO I and II have been changed to GPRO with 25-99 providers and GPRO with 100+ providers. Any practice that has 24 or less providers will need to submit individually. Deadline for filing the self-nomination letter is January 31, 2012. See the following link for more information on GPRO requirements: https://www.cms.gov/PQRS/Downloads/2012_GPRO_Requirements_01032012.pdf
- There will be 4 hardship exemptions for 2012:
 1. The eligible professional or group practice practices in a rural area with limited high-speed internet access
 2. The eligible professional or group practice practices in an area with limited available pharmacies for electronic prescribing
 3. Inability to electronically prescribe due to local, state, or federal law or regulation
 4. Eligible professionals who prescribe fewer than 100 prescriptions during a 6 month, payment adjustment reporting period
- Deadline to submit hardship exemption is June 30, 2012. Method to submit hardship exemption: https://www.qualitynet.org/portal/server.pt/community/communications_support_system/234
- Go to cms.gov/erx incentive for more detailed information.



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Feel free to contact me with any questions.