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## NEWS BRIEF | 07.08.10

### CMS creates new EHR incentive program website

In an effort to provide the public with current, extensive information regarding EHR incentive programs, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have created a website for this purpose. The website contains:

- An overview of the programs
- Specifics on meaningful use
- Recommendations on how to get started
- Eligibility and other specifics for providers, hospitals and states
- Program registration information
- Vendor Certification details
- Medicare Advantage description
- Upcoming events

[View the website »](#)

### Integration of PQRI and provider meaningful use demonstration required by Jan. 1, 2012

Under the health care reform law, CMS will incorporate the reporting of quality measures requirements in the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) with those required by the EHR incentive program for providers.

Quality measures such as blood pressure measurement for hypertension, body mass index screening, and prevention care follow up are just a few of the

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measures that could be included in the alignment of the two programs.

CMS has released a proposed rule for the contemplated changes and is asking for public comment on how the two programs should be integrated. The official proposed rule is expected to be published on July 13, 2010.

[View the proposed rule for the changes »](#)

[Read the full story »](#)

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## **Privacy and Security Tiger Team hard at work**

On June 25th, the Tiger Team proposed recommendations regarding health information exchange credentials and protection of PHI to the HIT Policy Committee. The approved suggestions included:

- Creation of digital exchange credentials
- Plan for ONC to ensure standardization, safety and security by taking part in the credentialing process
- Ability for state governments to create and enforce additional authorized credentialing requirements
- Necessity for restrictions on use and re-use of PHI

The team met again on June 29th to discuss consumer choice technology. The Tiger Team is scheduled to report back to the HIT Policy Committee, after which, it will release a complete report on August 19th.

[Read the full story »](#)

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