Meaningfully Using Your EHR: Stage 2 Eligible Professional Edition

By "meaningfully using" an EHR, you can receive incentive payments and avoid penalties from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) based on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. Nurses, MAs, front desk staff, and administrators can help you meet these criteria. Learn more about Meaningful Use: [http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/30_Meaningful_Use.asp](http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/30_Meaningful_Use.asp).

### What Do You Need To Do? What’s Your Goal? How Do You Do This in Epic?

| Order | Enter orders electronically. | > 60% of medication orders > 30% of laboratory orders > 30% of radiology orders are entered by a licensed healthcare professional.* | Enter and sign orders in the Medications & Orders navigator section or Order Entry. A nurse or MA can confirm orders for you to sign.

| Order | Send prescriptions to pharmacies electronically. | >50% of prescriptions you write.* | Enter and sign orders in the Medications & Orders navigator section or Order Entry. Verify the patient’s pharmacy, which appears at the bottom of the section. A nurse or MA can confirm a pharmacy and send orders for you to sign.

| Chart | Review problems, medications, and allergies. | > 80% of patients you see. | Update a patient’s information in the Problem List, Medications, Allergies/Contraindications navigation sections. If the patient has no active problems, medications, or allergies, click Mark as Reviewed.

| Chart | Record height, weight, and blood pressure. | Height and weight for > 80% of patients you see.* Blood pressure for > 80% of patients you see age 3 and older.* | Enter a height, weight, and blood pressure in the Vital Signs navigator section or in Documentation Flowsheets.

| Chart | Record smoking status. | > 80% of patients you see, age 13 and older.* | Enter a patient’s smoking status in the History navigator section or activity.

| Chart | Record preferred language, sex, race and ethnicity, and date of birth. | > 80% of patients you see. | Enter a patient’s information in the Demographics activity. Front desk staff can also record demographics during registration.

| Chart | Record family health history. | > 20% of patients you see.* | Enter a patient’s family health history in the History navigator section or activity.

| Chart | Record electronic progress notes. | > 30% of patients you see. | Write a progress note in NoteWriter, the Progress Notes navigator section or the Notes activity.

| Chart | Generate lists of patients with certain conditions. | At least one list that includes patients you see. | Go to Reporting Workbench, select a pre-configured report, such as My Diabetic Patients, and click Run.

### Engage

| Engage | Provide patients with an After Visit Summary (AVS) within one day of a visit. | > 50% of your visits.* | Print an AVS from the Visit Navigator or in the Schedule activity. Patients can also get their AVS in MyChart (if they have an account).

| Engage | Sign up patients for MyChart and release results and problems. | > 50% of patients you see have online access to health information.* > 5% of the patients you see view, download, or transmit their health information.* | Use the MyChart Sign-up navigator section before or during a visit so patients can activate their accounts in your office. If you manually release results or problems to MyChart, release them within 4 days. Encourage patients to log in to MyChart to view their health information.

| Engage | Provide patients with educational materials. | > 10% of patients you see. | Click References on your navigator toolbar. Select a document from the Relevant Documents list and click Add to Patient Instructions to add the materials to the patient’s AVS, or print the materials directly. Patients can also get educational resources on MyChart.

| Engage | Receive and respond to messages from patients. | > 5% of patients you see. | Encourage patients to send you MyChart messages, such as requests for prescription refills or medical advice. Send questionnaires to patients through In Basket.

| Engage | Reconcile a patient’s medications. | > 50% of new patients and patients referred to you by another clinician.* | Review the patient’s medication list in the Medications navigator section or the Reconcile Outside Information activity and click Mark as Reviewed.

| Engage | Send a summary of care when you refer a patient to another clinician. | Send a summary of care for > 50% of patients you refer to another clinician.* Electronically send a summary of care for > 10% of patients you refer to another clinician.* | Place an order for a referral in the Medications & Orders navigator section or Order Entry and send the patient’s information to his next clinician.

### Sync

| Sync | In addition to the objectives described above, you must submit data to CMS for 9 quality measures in three different areas. You can report on quality measures in the following areas:

- Patient Safety
- Efficient Use of Healthcare Resources
- Population and Public Health
- Clinical Processes and Effectiveness

For more information about quality measures, go to the Regulatory Exchange blog and review the [Meaningful Use 2014 Quality Measures Guide](http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/30_Meaningful_Use.asp).

### Report

As an organization, we have done the following to help you achieve additional Meaningful Use objectives:

- We’ve enabled drug-drug, drug-allergy, and drug-formulary checking.
- We’ve ensured that the results of > 55% of ordered lab tests are stored as structured data in the system.*
- We send preventive care and follow-up reminders to patients according to their communication preference.*
- We provide clinical decision support using BestPractice Advisories.
- We’ve ensured that the results of > 10% of tests where the result is an image are accessible through the system.*
- We’ve conducted a security risk analysis of our EHR technology.
- We submit immunization data to our state Immunization Information System.
- We submit syndromic surveillance data to our local public health agency.
- We submit case information to cancer registries and other specialized registries.

You can find this document and more Meaningful Use information on [Regulatory Exchange blog](http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/30_Meaningful_Use.asp). Meaningful Use is being continually defined. If we learn more from CMS, ONC, or certifying bodies, we’ll be sure to update our recommendations. As always, contact your Epic representative with any questions about Meaningful Use.

*Worried that some of these objectives won’t apply to your practice? Many have exclusion criteria. Refer to the [Meaningful Use Objectives Guide](http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/30_Meaningful_Use.asp) in Galaxy.*