

based payment modifier is based on a query of PECOS that occurs within 10 days of the close of the Physician Quality Reporting System group registration process during the applicable performance period described at §414.1215. Groups are removed from the PECOS-generated list if, based on a claims analysis, the group did not have the required number of eligible professionals, as defined in paragraph (a) of this section, that submitted claims during the performance period for the applicable calendar year payment adjustment period. Solo practitioners are removed from the PECOS-generated list if, based on a claims analysis, the solo practitioner did not submit claims during the performance period for the applicable calendar year payment adjustment period.

(2) Beginning with the CY 2016 payment adjustment period, the size of a group during the applicable performance period will be determined by the lower number of eligible professionals as indicated by the PECOS-generated list or claims analysis.

(3) For the CY 2018 payment adjustment period, the composition of a group during the applicable performance period will be determined based on whether the group includes physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and/or other types of nonphysician eligible professionals as indicated by the PECOS-generated list or claims analysis.

[77 FR 69368, Nov. 16, 2012, as amended at 78 FR 74820, Dec. 10, 2013; 79 FR 68005, Nov. 13, 2014; 80 FR 71382, Nov. 16, 2015; 81 FR 80555, Nov. 15, 2016]

**§414.1215 Performance and payment adjustment periods for the value-based payment modifier.**

(a) The performance period is calendar year 2013 for value-based payment modifier adjustments made in the calendar year 2015 payment adjustment period.

(b) The performance period is calendar year 2014 for value-based payment modifier adjustments made in the calendar year 2016 payment adjustment period.

(c) The performance period is calendar year 2015 for value-based payment modifier adjustments made in the calendar year 2017 payment adjustment period.

(d) The performance period is calendar year 2016 for value-based payment modifier adjustments made in the calendar year 2018 payment adjustment period.

[77 FR 69368, Nov. 16, 2012, as amended at 78 FR 74820, Dec. 10, 2013; 80 FR 71383, Nov. 16, 2015]

**§414.1220 Reporting mechanisms for the value-based payment modifier.**

Solo practitioners and groups subject to the value-based payment modifier (or individual eligible professionals within such groups) may submit data on quality measures as specified under the Physician Quality Reporting System using the reporting mechanisms for which they are eligible.

[78 FR 74820, Dec. 10, 2013, as amended at 79 FR 68006, Nov. 13, 2014]

**§414.1225 Alignment of Physician Quality Reporting System quality measures and quality measures for the value-based payment modifier.**

All of the quality measures for which solo practitioners and groups (or individual eligible professionals within such groups) are eligible to report under the Physician Quality Reporting System in a given calendar year are used to calculate the value-based payment modifier for the applicable payment adjustment period, as defined in §414.1215, to the extent a solo practitioner or a group (or individual eligible professionals within such group) submit data on such measures.

[79 FR 68006, Dec. 13, 2014]

**§414.1230 Additional measures for groups and solo practitioners.**

The value-based payment modifier includes the following additional quality measures (outcome measures) as applicable for all groups and solo practitioners subject to the value-based payment modifier:

(a) A composite of rates of potentially preventable hospital admissions for heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and diabetes. The