

during the targeted review request submission period; or the request is outside of the scope of the targeted review, which is limited to the calculation of the MIPS payment adjustment factors applicable to the MIPS eligible clinician or group for a year. If the targeted review request is denied, there will be no change to the MIPS final score or associated MIPS payment adjustment factors for the MIPS eligible clinician or group. If the targeted review request is approved, the MIPS final score and associated MIPS payment adjustment factors may be revised, if applicable, for the MIPS eligible clinician or group.

(4) CMS will respond to each request for a targeted review timely submitted and determine whether a targeted review is warranted.

(5) A request for a targeted review may include additional information in support of the request at the time it is submitted. If CMS requests additional information from the MIPS eligible clinician or group that is the subject of a request for a targeted review, it must be provided and received by CMS within 30 days of CMS' request. Non-responsiveness to CMS' request for additional information may result in a final decision based on the information available, although another non-duplicative request for a targeted review may be submitted before the end of the targeted review request submission period.

(6) If a request for a targeted review is approved, CMS may recalculate, to the extent feasible and applicable, the scores of a MIPS eligible clinician or group with regard to measures, activities, performance categories, and the final score, as well as the MIPS payment adjustment factors.

(7) Decisions based on the targeted review are final, and there is no further review or appeal. CMS will notify the individual or entity that submitted the request for a targeted review of the final decision.

(8) Documentation submitted for a targeted review must be retained by the submitter for 6 years from the end of the MIPS performance period.

(b) *Limitations on review.* Except as specified in paragraph (a)(4) of this section, there is no administrative or judi-

cial review under section 1869 or 1879 of the Act, or otherwise of—

(1) The methodology used to determine the amount of the MIPS payment adjustment factor and the amount of the additional MIPS payment adjustment factor and the determination of such amounts;

(2) The establishment of the performance standards and the performance period;

(3) The identification of measures and activities specified for a MIPS performance category and information made public or posted on the Physician Compare Internet Web site of the CMS; and

(4) The methodology developed that is used to calculate performance scores and the calculation of such scores, including the weighting of measures and activities under such methodology.

[81 FR 77537, Nov. 4, 2016, as amended at 84 FR 63197, Nov. 15, 2019]

**§ 414.1390 Data validation and auditing.**

(a) *General.* CMS will selectively audit MIPS eligible clinicians and groups on a yearly basis. If a MIPS eligible clinician or group is selected for audit, the MIPS eligible clinician or group will be required to do the following in accordance with applicable law and timelines CMS establishes:

(1) Comply with data sharing requests, providing all data as requested by CMS or our designated entity. All data must be shared with CMS or our designated entity within 45 days of the data sharing request, or an alternate timeframe that is agreed to by CMS and the MIPS eligible clinician or group. Data will be submitted via email, facsimile, or an electronic method via a secure Web site maintained by CMS.

(2) Provide substantive, primary source documents as requested. These documents may include: Copies of claims, medical records for applicable patients, or other resources used in the data calculations for MIPS measures, objectives, and activities. Primary source documentation also may include verification of records for Medicare and non-Medicare beneficiaries where applicable.

(b) *Certification.* All MIPS eligible clinicians and groups that submit data and information to CMS for purposes of MIPS must certify to the best of their knowledge that the data submitted to CMS is true, accurate, and complete. Such certification must accompany the submission and be made at the time of submission.

(c) *Reopening.* CMS may reopen and revise a MIPS payment adjustment in accordance with the rules set forth at §§405.980 through 405.986 of this chapter.

(d) *Record retention.* All MIPS eligible clinicians and groups that submit data and information to CMS for purposes of MIPS must retain such data and information for 6 years from the end of the MIPS performance period.

[81 FR 77537, Nov. 4, 2016, as amended at 82 FR 53959, Nov. 16, 2017]

#### §414.1395 Public reporting.

(a) *General.* (1) CMS posts on Physician Compare, in an easily understandable format, the following:

(i) Information regarding the performance of MIPS eligible clinicians, including, but not limited to, final scores and performance category scores for each MIPS eligible clinician; and

(ii) The names of eligible clinicians in Advanced APMs and, to the extent feasible, the names and performance of such Advanced APMs.

(2) CMS periodically posts on Physician Compare aggregate information on the MIPS, including the range of final scores for all MIPS eligible clinicians and the range of the performance of all MIPS eligible clinicians with respect to each performance category.

(3) The information made available under this section will indicate, where appropriate, that publicized information may not be representative of an eligible clinician's entire patient population, the variety of services furnished by the eligible clinician, or the health conditions of individuals treated.

(b) *Maintain existing public reporting standards.* With the exception of data that must be mandatorily reported on Physician Compare, for each program year, CMS relies on established public reporting standards to guide the information available for inclusion on Physician Compare. The public reporting

standards require data included on Physician Compare to be statistically valid, reliable, and accurate; comparable across collection types; and meet the reliability threshold. And, to be included on the public facing profile pages, the data must also resonate with website users, as determined by CMS.

(c) *New measures and activities.* (1) CMS does not publicly report any data on new quality or cost measure for the first 2 years in which it is in the program, after which CMS evaluates the measure to determine whether it is suitable for public reporting under paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) CMS does not publicly report any MVP data on new improvement activity or Promoting Interoperability measure, objective, or activity included in an MVP for the first year in which it is included in the MVP.

(d) *30-day preview period.* For each program year, CMS provides a 30-day preview period for any clinician or group with Quality Payment Program data before the data are publicly reported on Physician Compare.

[82 FR 53959, Nov. 16, 2017, as amended at 83 FR 60087, Nov. 23, 2018; 84 FR 63198, Nov. 15, 2019; 86 FR 65677, Nov. 19, 2021]

#### §414.1400 Third party intermediaries.

(a) *General.* (1) MIPS data may be submitted on behalf of a MIPS eligible clinician, group, virtual group, subgroup, or APM Entity by any of the following third party intermediaries:

- (i) QCDR;
- (ii) Qualified registry;
- (iii) Health IT vendor; or
- (iv) CMS-approved survey vendor.

(2) Third party intermediary approval criteria—

(i) To be approved as a third party intermediary, an entity must agree to meet the applicable requirements of this section, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) A third party intermediary's principle place of business and retention of any data must be based in the U.S.

(B) If the data is derived from CEHRT, a QCDR, qualified registry, or health IT vendor must be able to indicate its data source.