respect to whom payment may be made under Medicare Part A, or acute-care inpatient-bed-days attributable to individuals who are enrolled with a Medicare Advantage organization under Medicare Part C.

(h) *Approximate proxy for charity care.* If the State determines that an eligible provider's data are not available on charity care necessary to calculate the portion of the formula specified in paragraph (g)(2)(ii)(B) of this section, the State may use that provider's data on uncompensated care to determine an appropriate proxy for charity care, but must include a downward adjustment to eliminate bad debt from uncompensated care data. The State must use auditable data sources.

(i) *Deeming.* In the absence of the data necessary, with respect to an eligible hospital the amount described in paragraph (g)(2)(ii)(B) of this section must be deemed to be 1. In the absence of data, with respect to an eligible hospital, necessary to compute the amount described in paragraph (g)(2)(i)(B) of this section, the amount under such clause must be deemed to be 0.

(j) *Dual eligibility for incentives payments.* A hospital may receive incentive payments from both Medicare and Medicaid if it meets all eligibility criteria in the payment year.

(k) *Payments to State-designated entities.* Payments to entities promoting the adoption of certified EHR technology as designated by the State must meet the following requirements:

(1) A Medicaid EP may reassign his or her incentive payment to an entity promoting the adoption of certified EHR technology, as defined in §495.302, and as designated by the State, only under the following conditions:

(i) The State has established a method to designate entities promoting the adoption of EHR technology that comports with the Federal definition in §495.302.

(ii) The State publishes and makes available to all EPs a voluntary mechanism for reassigning annual payments and includes information about the verification mechanism the State will use to ensure that the reassignment is voluntary and that no more than 5 percent of the annual payment is retained by the entity for costs not related to certified EHR technology.

(2) [Reserved]

[75 FR 44565, July 28, 2010, as amended at 77 FR 54161, Sept. 4, 2012; 80 FR 62954, Oct. 16, 2015]

§495.312 Process for payments.

(a) *General rule.* States must have a process for making payments consistent with the requirements in subparts A and D of this part.

(b) *Reporting data consistent with this subpart.* In order to receive a payment under this part, a provider must report the required data under subpart A and this subpart within the EHR reporting period described in §495.4.

(c) *State's role.* (1) Except as specified in paragraph (c)(2) of this section, the State determines the provider's eligibility for the EHR incentive payment under subparts A and D of this part and approves, processes, and makes timely payments using a process approved by CMS.

(2) At the State's option, CMS conducts the audits and handles any subsequent appeals, of whether eligible hospitals are meaningful EHR users on the States' behalf.

(d) *State disbursement.* The State disburses an incentive payment to the provider based on the criteria described in subpart A and this subpart.

(e) *Timeframes.* Payments are disbursed consistent with the following timeframes for each type of Medicaid eligible provider:

(1) *Medicaid EPs.* States disburse payments consistent with the calendar year on a rolling basis following verification of eligibility for the payment year.

(2) *Medicaid eligible hospitals.* States disburse payments consistent with the Federal fiscal year on a rolling basis following verification of eligibility for the payment year.

[75 FR 44565, July 28, 2010, as amended at 77 FR 54162, Sept. 4, 2012]

§495.314 Activities required to receive an incentive payment.

(a) *First payment year.* (1) In the first payment year, to receive an incentive payment, the Medicaid EP or eligible hospital must meet one of the following:

(i) Demonstrate that during the payment year, it has adopted, implemented, or upgraded certified EHR technology, as defined in § 495.302.

(ii) Demonstrate that during the EHR reporting period for a payment year, it is a meaningful EHR user as defined in § 495.4.

(2) A provider may notify the State of its non-binding intention to participate in the incentives program prior to having fulfilled all of the eligibility criteria.

(b) *Subsequent payment years.* (1) In the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth payment years, to receive an incentive payment, the Medicaid EP or eligible hospital must demonstrate that during the EHR reporting period for the applicable payment year, it is a meaningful EHR user, as defined in § 495.4.

(2) The automated reporting of the clinical quality measures will be accomplished using certified EHR technology interoperable with the system designated by the State to receive the data.

§ 495.316 State monitoring and reporting regarding activities required to receive an incentive payment.

(a) Subject to § 495.332 the State is responsible for tracking and verifying the activities necessary for a Medicaid EP or eligible hospital to receive an incentive payment for each payment year, as described in § 495.314.

(b) Subject to § 495.332, the State must submit a State Medicaid HIT Plan to CMS that includes—

(1) A detailed plan for monitoring, verifying and periodic auditing of the requirements for receiving incentive payments, as described in § 495.314; and

(2) A description of the how the State will collect and report on provider meaningful use of certified EHR technology.

(c) Subject to §§ 495.332 and 495.352, the State is required to submit to CMS annual reports, in the manner prescribed by CMS, on the following:

(1) Provider adoption, implementation, or upgrade of certified EHR technology activities and payments; and

(2) Aggregated, de-identified meaningful use data.

(d)(1) The annual report described in paragraph (c) of this section must include, but is not limited to the following:

(i) The number and type of providers who qualified for an incentive payment on the basis of having adopted, implemented, or upgraded certified EHR technology.

(ii) Aggregated data tables representing the provider adoption, implementation, or upgrade of certified EHR technology.

(iii) The number and type of providers who qualified for an incentive payment on the basis of demonstrating that they are meaningful users of certified EHR technology;

(iv) Aggregated data tables representing the provider's clinical quality measures data; and

(v) A description and quantitative data on how its incentive payment program addressed individuals with unique needs such as children.

(2)(i) Subject to § 495.332, the State may propose a revised definition for Stage 1 of meaningful use of certified EHR technology, subject to CMS prior approval, but only with respect to the following objectives:

(A) Generate lists of patients by specific conditions to use for quality improvement, reduction of disparities, research or outreach.

(B) Capability to submit electronic data to immunization registries or immunization information systems and actual submission except where prohibited, and according to applicable law and practice.

(C) Capability to submit electronic data on reportable (as required by State or local law) lab results to public health agencies and actual submission except where prohibited according to applicable law and practice.

(D) Capability to submit electronic syndromic surveillance data to public health agencies and actual submission except where prohibited and according to applicable law and practice.

(ii) Subject to § 495.332, the State may propose a revised definition for Stage 2 of meaningful use of certified EHR technology, subject to CMS prior approval, but only with respect to the following objectives: