

Information Alert



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Urgent



Action Required



For Your Information

Date: December 1, 2015

To: SPTA and Division Federal Advocacy Coordinators

From: Doug Walter, J.D., Associate Executive Director for Government Relations
American Psychological Association Practice Organization

Cc: Katherine Nordal, Ph.D., Executive Director for Professional Practice
APAPO Board of Directors
CAPP
SPTA Executive Directors
SPTA Directors of Professional Affairs

Re: CMS Again Extends 2014 PQRS Informal Review Period to December 16

Eligible professionals (EPs) in Medicare, including psychologists, who believe they have been incorrectly assessed the 2016 PQRS negative payment adjustment have **until 11:59 p.m. ET on December 16, 2015**, to request an informal review of their 2014 PQRS reporting data. The informal review is the only opportunity EPs have to challenge the penalty determination.

As previously [reported by APAPO](#), CMS sent letters to EPs who did not satisfactorily report PQRS quality measures in 2014. The letter informs them that all of their 2016 Medicare Part B payments will be subject to a 2 percent reduction.

All informal review requests must be submitted electronically via the [Quality Reporting Communication Support Page \(CSP\)](#) which will be available through Dec. 16, 2015, at 11:59 p.m. ET. **Informal review will experience downtime from December 3 through December 7, 2015**, and CMS recommends requesting an information review outside of this window.

For additional questions regarding the informal review process, contact CMS' **QualityNet Help Desk** at **1-866-288-8912** (TTY 1-877-715-6222) or Qnetsupport@hcqis.org Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Central Time. To avoid security violations, do not include personal identifying information, such as Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), in e-mail inquiries to the QualityNet Help Desk.

For more PQRS resources visit the [Quality Improvement Programs section](#) of APAPO's Website and register for [APAPO PQRS PRO](#), a qualified CMS PQRS registry.

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