

TORCH Meaningful Use Assessment Program

Chart Your Course to Meaningful Use

Background

This is a unique and challenging time for the healthcare industry. Through the HITECH provisions of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), an unprecedented opportunity has been created to accelerate healthcare transformation through automation, interoperability and secure health information exchanges across the continuum of care.

In July 2010, CMS released the Final Rule for the EHR Incentive Program and the Stage 1 Meaningful Use (MU) criteria. For each of the health policy priority outcomes, the government has defined a set of goals, objectives and measures to be implemented in three phases from 2011 through 2015, with escalating penalties for failure to meet the requirements within the specified timeframe. To qualify for the EHR incentive payments, hospitals and providers must achieve, demonstrate and maintain Meaningful Use of a certified EHR system.

Meaningful Use Assessment

To assist with this effort, TORCH and the TORCH Foundation have partnered with maxIT Healthcare to develop the TORCH Meaningful Use Assessment Program. **The purpose of this program is to provide onsite Meaningful Use assessments to help hospitals determine their status and readiness in meeting the Meaningful Use requirements and to develop a roadmap with specific, prioritized recommendations for achieving and maintaining Meaningful Use.** Participants receive the following benefits and deliverables:

- ✓ **Access to the Meaningful Use Assessment Toolkit** designed specifically for rural hospitals
- ✓ **Onsite Meaningful Use Assessment** conducted by a team of industry experts
- ✓ **Assessment Analysis, Report and Dashboard** of the facility's current state of MU readiness
- ✓ **A Customized Meaningful Use Roadmap** with specific, prioritized recommendations for how your organization can achieve MU requirements
- ✓ **Presentation of the Findings, Analysis and MU Roadmap** to the hospital leadership team

Time is of the Essence

Achieving and maintaining Meaningful Use is a big challenge. Meaningful Use is more than simply installing a qualified EHR system—it is a vast, organization-wide transformative process and change management effort requiring the integration and harmonization of standards and processes across disparate data sources, electronic information systems, organizations and settings of care.

It is imperative that hospitals and providers position and prepare themselves in time to receive and maximize the Stimulus incentive payments for their EHR investments and to avoid future penalties. Take advantage of this program. *Now is the time to act!*

See back page for details and benefits of our Meaningful Use Assessment Program

Provided in Partnership by



Important Dates

- February 17, 2009 - HITECH Act became law as part of ARRA
- July 3, 2010 - CMS issued Stage 1 Meaningful Use Final Rule
- October 1, 2010 - Reporting year begins for eligible hospitals and CAHs
- January 1, 2011 - Reporting year begins for eligible professionals (EPs)
- **January 3, 2011 - Registration for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program begins**
- April 2011 - Attestation for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program begins
- **May 2011 - EHR Incentive Payments expected to begin**
- July 3, 2011 - Last day for eligible hospitals to begin their 90-day reporting period to demonstrate meaningful use for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program
- September 30, 2011 - Last day of the federal fiscal year (FY). Reporting year ends for eligible hospitals and CAHs
- October 1, 2011 - Last day for EPs to begin their 90-day reporting period for calendar year (CY) 2011 for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program
- November 30, 2011 - Last day for eligible hospitals and CAHs to register and attest to receive an Incentive Payment for Federal FY 2011
- December 31, 2011 - Reporting year ends for EPs
- February 29, 2012 - Last day for EPs to register and attest to receive an Incentive Payment for CY 2011

To learn more about this program or to request a Meaningful Use Assessment, contact:

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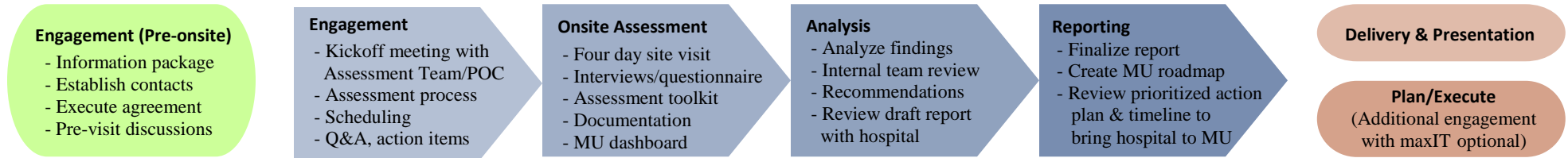
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<http://foundation.torchnet.org> (download application)

TORCH Meaningful Use Assessment Program

Assessment Process



Program Benefits & Deliverables

With this assessment, hospitals will be able to identify any existing gaps or adoption barriers and implement a roadmap with recommended steps, resource requirements and a timetable for reaching Meaningful Use. Program participants will receive the following benefits and deliverables:

- (1) **Onsite Meaningful Use Assessment (4 days):** An Assessment Team will audit your organization's IT infrastructure readiness, systems implementation and performance baselines in relation to the MU requirements. The MU assessment will:
- Focus on Stage 1 Meaningful Use objectives/measures and employ the HIMSS assessment and adoption model to determine your facility's current stage of HIT/EHR implementation;
 - Evaluate the administrative, business-oriented, technical and clinical processes for monitoring, managing and attaining both the functional and regulatory requirements using a MU toolkit and assessment questionnaire;
 - Evaluate care delivery processes, workflow, quality reporting and IT infrastructure;
 - Conduct interviews of key staff and evaluate staffing skills and capacity;
 - Evaluate current system enhancements/modules and how they can be fully deployed and operational to optimize system functionalities;
 - Perform a gap analysis to identify adoption gaps and major areas for improvement;
 - Identify/prioritize projects and address cost, timing and resource considerations; and
 - Examine current state of readiness for:
 - ✓ CPOE/physician ordering, admitting, abstracting and discharging processes;
 - ✓ Clinical documentation and quality reporting;
 - ✓ Medication reconciliation, delivery and administration;
 - ✓ Pharmacy and drug dictionary/functional service view (FSV) load;
 - ✓ Electronic medication administration record (eMAR) and bar code medication verification (BMV);
 - ✓ Change management and the impact of competing commitments/projects;
 - ✓ Secured patient information delivery;
 - ✓ Emergency department (ED) and inpatient records integration;
 - ✓ System access and interface; and
 - ✓ Organizational use and adoption barriers.

- (2) **Assessment Report & Analysis (2 days):** The report presents a detailed analysis of the assessment findings and includes:
- Overlay and comparison of the hospital's current state in meeting the ARRA requirements and the HIMSS' EHR adoption model;
 - Meaningful Use crosswalk with specific emphasis on inpatient functional and interoperability measures;
 - Summary of key/identified barriers and roadblocks, as well as issues and gaps in staff/skills, processes and systems;
 - Use of gap analysis to identify redesign areas or areas that can be more fully deployed, optimized or utilized; and
 - Presentation of a financial and MU compliance dashboard to show the facility's state of readiness.
- (3) **Facility-Specific Meaningful Use Roadmap (2 days):** As part of the assessment report, you will receive the MU roadmap, which contains:
- Specific recommendations and prioritized steps for measurable progression towards achieving the Stage 1 Meaningful Use;
 - Crosswalk with specific milestones for the inpatient functional and interoperability measures;
 - Suggested timeline and resource needs/requirements for implementing the recommendations; and
 - Meaningful Use lessons learned and best practice strategies.
- (4) **Presentation of the Report Findings, Analysis and MU Roadmap** to the Hospital Leadership and staff.