

Program Year 2020 Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) Model Updates

Last updated 6/15/2020

CMS implemented some helpful modifications to CPC+ model reporting and activities in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency (PHE). Table 1 provides the most recent information related to extensions, delays, cancellations, and general program updates for CPC+ model activities and timelines. Table 2 provides a list of resources that you may find helpful during this time, including telehealth best practices, telehealth billing, and financial support programs.

Table 1. CPC+ Model Activity Updates

Model Activity	Details
Practice Portal User Verification: Q3 2020	Canceled: Practice User Verification for Q3 2020 has been suspended and practices are not required to verify their Portal users for this period.
Care Delivery Reporting: Summer 2020	Canceled: CMS will not collect CPC+ care delivery requirement data during the Summer 2020 reporting window. Summer 2020 Care Delivery reporting was originally scheduled for June 22 to July 10 and would have covered practice activities for the first six months of 2020. As a result of this cancellation, CPC+ practices will not report on, nor be held accountable for, progress toward meeting the CPC+ care delivery requirements for the first half of the 2020 program year.
Care Delivery Reporting: Winter 2020	In general, practices will not be expected to report on, nor be held accountable for, progress toward meeting care delivery requirements from the first six months of 2020. Guidance on longitudinal care management, as outlined in the care delivery reporting guide, remains the same: for Winter 2020 care delivery reporting, practices will be asked to report the number of patients actively receiving longitudinal care management based on a convenient day or moment, as close as possible to the last day of the reporting period. Generally, for other care delivery reporting questions, practices will be asked to reflect on the prior two quarters, which will be July through December 2020.
2020 Care Delivery and Quality Audits	Canceled: CMS will not conduct CPC+ Program Care Delivery and Quality Audits for Program Year 2019. These audits were originally scheduled to occur this summer. Please note that CPC+ practices may still be subject to an ad hoc audit if suspected of model noncompliance.
2020 Patient Experience of Care Survey Roster	Delayed: CMS is temporarily delaying the 2020 Patient Experience of Care Survey (PECS) roster collection. The new schedule for PECS roster submission will be communicated in the "On the Plus Side" newsletter and on CPC+ Connect as soon as it is available.
Patient-Reported Outcome Performance Measure (PRO-PM) Test	Canceled: Due to timing and contract delays, the efforts to develop an electronically specified PRO-PM for depression symptoms is no longer possible. RAND Health Care, Northwestern University, and CMS would like to thank CPC+ practices for their support of this work to date, specifically the practices who participated in our pilot test and focus groups and those who expressed interest in taking part in a national measure test.
Practitioner and Staff Rosters	Practices that are making temporary staffing and location changes due to COVID-19 don't need to update their rosters to reflect these changes. Rosters should still be updated for changes that are expected to last beyond the PHE due to COVID-19. If you have any questions about whether it is necessary to update your roster to reflect a specific change, please contact CPC+ Support.



Model Activity	Details
2020 Quality and Utilization Benchmarks	CMS has been actively seeking input from clinicians and working rapidly to accommodate challenges created by the COVID-19 PHE. The CPC+ model team is currently assessing options for quality and utilization benchmarks for 2020. We understand this is an important issue for our model participants and partners and we will consider how best to align with agency-wide decisions that are currently under review. We will share the final decision in OTPS and CPC+ Connect as soon as possible.
Medicare Payment Sequestration	<p>Canceled: The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act suspended the 2% Medicare payment sequestration between May 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. Any payments issued, including CPC+ payments such as care management fees (CMFs) and Comprehensive Primary Care Payments (CPCPs), are therefore exempt from the 2% sequestration during this period.</p> <p>2020 Q2 CPC+ payments, which prospectively cover services in April through June 2020, were calculated prior to the CARES Act and included sequestration payment reductions. CPC+ will therefore issue a repayment to practices for the sequestration reductions that were included in the Q2 CMF and CPCP payment for May through June 2020. Practices should expect to receive this repayment in late May.</p>

Table 2. Telehealth and Financial Support

Resource	Details
Telehealth Services and Billing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicare Telemedicine Health Care Provider Fact Sheet: This CMS fact sheet summarizes three main types of virtual services physicians and other professionals can provide to Medicare beneficiaries: Medicare telehealth visits, virtual visits, and e-visits • Medicare Telehealth FAQs: This set of CMS FAQs summarizes information related to the recent expansion of Medicare telehealth coverage during the PHE • Medicare FFS Billing FAQs: This set of CMS FAQs summarizes recent information around COVID-19-related waivers, including billing for virtual Annual Wellness Visits, as well as other topics • General Provider Telehealth Tool Kit: This CMS developed toolkit includes information for establishing a permanent telemedicine program, including choosing telemedicine vendors, initiating a telemedicine program, monitoring patients remotely, and developing documentation tools
Loans and Financial Assistance Programs for Physician Practices	<p><i>*Please refer to the websites to check current availability of funding.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paycheck Protection Program: A Small Business Administration (SBA) loan program that supports businesses keeping workers on their payroll during the COVID-19 crisis • Economic Injury Disaster Loan Emergency Advance: This loan program will provide economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing temporary difficulties. Providers can receive up to a \$10,000 advance upon application • Main Street Lending Program: The Federal Reserve established the Main Street Lending Program to support lending to small and medium-sized businesses that were in good financial standing before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Program will operate through two facilities: The Main Street New Loan Facility (MSNLF) and the Main Street Expanded Loan Facility (MSELF) • CARES Act Provider Relief Fund: On March 27, 2020, the President signed the bipartisan CARES Act that provides \$100 billion in relief funds to hospitals and other health care providers on the front lines of the coronavirus response. \$50 billion of the Provider Relief Fund is allocated for general distribution to Medicare facilities and providers impacted by COVID-19