The push is on. There’s less than a year to go for organizations to attest for Stage 1 meaningful use to receive the full set of incentive payments, but exactly how many will make it remains to be seen. According to a recent Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society survey, 41 percent of hospitals claimed to be well-positioned to meet Stage 1 requirements; however, 53 percent reported that they are not ready and 6 percent of organizations did not respond. Thus far, the program has failed to meet expectations, at least in terms of the number of providers applying for incentive payments being made. The Obama administration originally estimated it would pay out up to $2.8 billion during fiscal 2011, which ended Sept. 30. Between May (continued inside)

Do we list patients by specific conditions?

Can we provide an electronic copy of a patient’s health information upon request?

Are we re-engineering yet?

Are we having a meaningful use governance structure?

Are lab results sent to outpatient providers?

Do we record a patient’s demographic information?

Do we have an e-prescribing strategy in place?

Can we provide an electronic copy of a patient’s health information upon request?

Are we set up to submit lab data to public health agencies?

Do we have a meaningful use governance structure?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we set up to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?

Are we ready to support Meaningful Use?
The Obama administration originally targeted electronic health records at hospitals, but by fiscal year 2011, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services said that more than 4,500 hospitals had met the meaningful use standard and were eligible for the Medicare incentive program. That year, the program expanded to include some small rural hospitals. To date, the Medicare program has paid out more than $1 billion to hospitals and health systems to support EHR adoption and meaningful use of the technology.

Aspen Advisors LLC. “Meaningful use is ... about transitioning data to quality measures,” he says, adding, “Meaningful use is a journey, not a destination. The...
Athenahealth's cloud-based practice management, EHR, and care coordination services offer a proven model for securing Meaningful Use and other pay-for-performance incentives for physicians in your network. In 2011, an industry-leading 81% of our eligible providers received their Medicare incentive payments.

Government introduces mandate and requirements.

Our Clinical Intelligence Team builds all 44 clinical quality measures into your workflow via our Quality Management Engine.

5-stage patient workflow. Clinical quality measures are embedded into the patient workflow so they can be satisfied with minimal effort. They are collected outside the exam wherever possible and automatic prompts remind providers of the ones that require their attention.

Single instance. Cloud-based software is continuously updated for the providers on our network as rules change and new Pay-for-Performance programs are introduced. So providers are always on top of change.

Our account managers provide free coaching and share best practices from across the network to get your providers to the finish line.

Our back-office services team takes on the onerous work of registration and attestation to make it faster and easier to secure incentive payments.

Our clinical performance specialists track each provider against every Meaningful Use measure and optimize workflow to the benefit of all providers on the network.

This is how our cloud-based services help providers get paid for Meaningful Use. Guaranteed.*

Turn the page to read how one of our clients received Meaningful Use payments for 100% of their eligible providers.

* If you don’t receive the Federal Stimulus reimbursement dollars for the first year you qualify, we will credit you 100% of your EHR service fees for up to six months until you do. This offer applies to HITECH Act Medicare reimbursement payments only. Additional terms, conditions, and limitations apply.
With 79 providers and nine specialties, Strand Physician Specialists, P.A., DBA Carolina Health Specialists, needed an electronic health records solution to keep up with the changing health care landscape. And with up to $44,000 of Medicare incentive money on the line per provider, achieving Meaningful Use became an important consideration.

“The pain point generally was the economic realities of modern health care,” explains Carolina Health CEO, Ken DeHart, MD. “We pride ourselves on being innovative and we felt it imperative to proactively step forward and adopt an EHR.”

After a nearly three-year review, Carolina Health selected athenahealth and their #1 Best in KLAS cloud-based EHR service, athenaClinicals. The positive results are unmistakable: All 18 of Carolina Health’s eligible physicians have attested and received Medicare incentive checks.

Carolina Health credits athenahealth’s innovative combination of software, knowledge and back-office services. That includes measures built directly into the clinical workflow, free performance coaching and even attestation on behalf of the practice. Carolina Health had more than just a vendor—they had a service partner guaranteeing their success.

“We had so much support from athenahealth that with proper planning and confident monitoring, we hit an excellent job meeting our goals,” says Business Services director Kari Vereen.

“I talk to physicians that I know adopted an EMR, and ask how they’re doing with Meaningful Use,” says CFO Debi Randolph. “‘Their comments are ‘I’m not exactly sure where we are on that.’ I try not to rub it in to them too much!’

Visit athenahealth.com/HHN to see how we’ve helped other clients get paid for Meaningful Use.