

MACRA: In Focus

Payment Track Selection and Update on CPC+ in the State of Maine

Last month, we announced that we will begin a new monthly feature called “MACRA: In Focus” where we will provide you with updates and information about MACRA. This month, we will focus on the payment track that applies to ACO Participants and provide you with an update on CPC+ in the state of Maine.

First, A Quick Refresher on MACRA Law

- The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) was enacted in April 2015
- MACRA repeals the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) and mandates critical updates to Medicare provider payment over the next few years
- Locks provider rates at near zero growth
- Offers multiple payment tracks with varying levels of risk/reward, tying more payments to value
 - Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)
 - Advanced Alternative Payment Model (APMs)
- Performance for 2017 paid in 2019
- The proposed rule was issued in April 2016 and the Final Rule is anticipated in November 2016

Payment Track Selection for ACO Participants: MIPS/APM

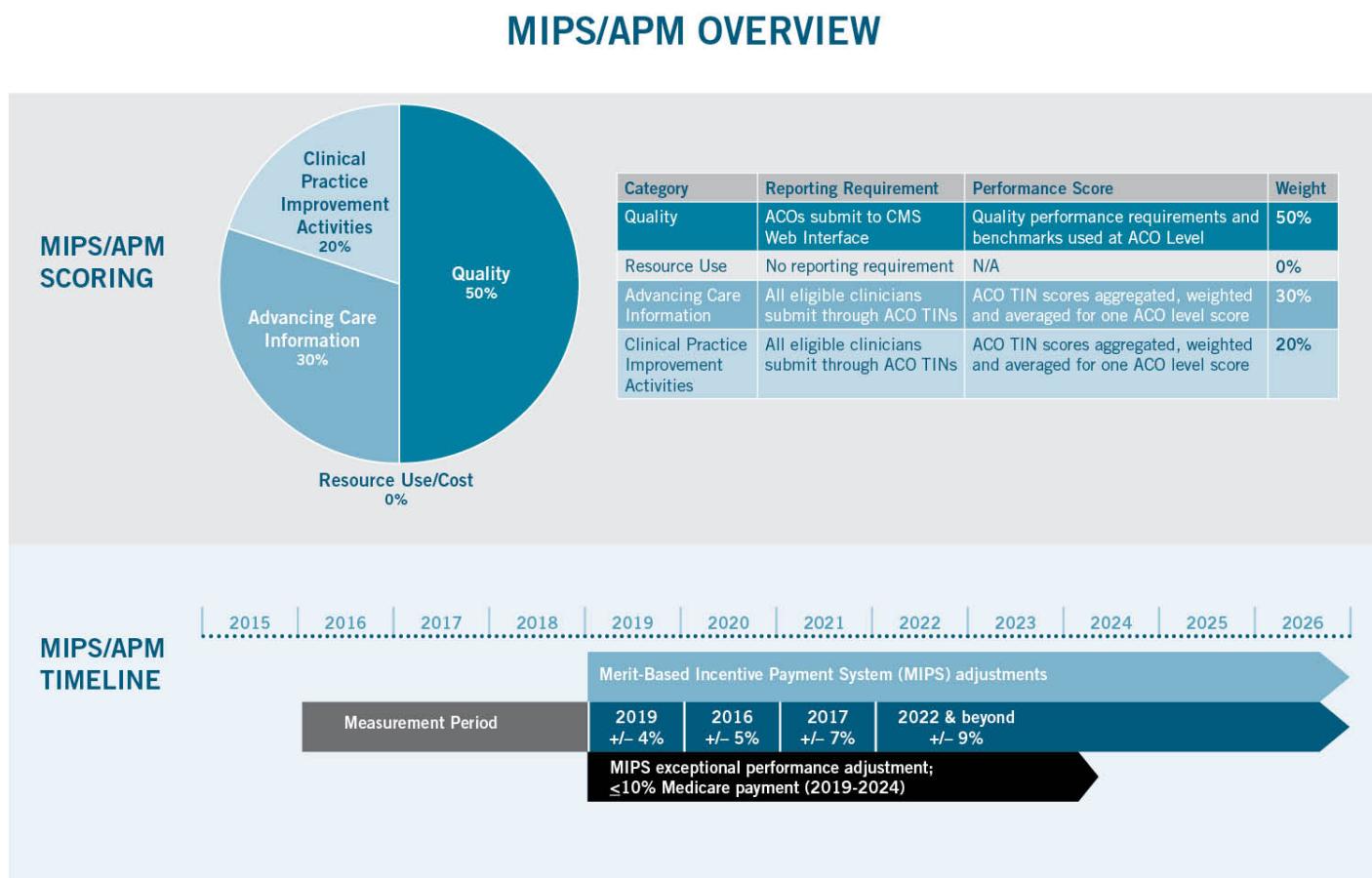
Because the MaineHealth ACO’s contract arrangement falls under the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) Track 1 (upside only), **ACO participants qualify for the MIPS/APM payment track.** Scoring and measures for MIPS/APM will unfold as follows:

MIPS/APM Component (% of Score)	Measures
Quality (50%)	MaineHealth ACO MSSP providers will be scored on this measure based on the results of the MSSP quality measures submission.
Resource Use (0%)	<i>Resource Use is not assessed for MIPS/APM providers.</i>
Advancing Care Information (30%)	Clinicians report measures of patient engagement and information exchange. These measures will closely align with the former Meaningful Use program.
Clinical Practice Improvement (20%) <small>* ACOs start with a base score of 50% rather than 0%</small>	Physicians choose from more than 90 activities. Medical homes earn full credit; APMs earn half credit.

For a comparison of MIPS/APM components to pre-MACRA components, please see [last month's article on Preparing for MACRA](#).

MIPS Timeline for Performance and Payment

The chart below shows the timeline for measurement and payment adjustments.



*TIN = Medicare enrolled tax ID number

CPC+ In Brief

Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) is a national advanced primary care medical home model built on the foundation of the Comprehensive Primary Care (CPC) initiative. CPC was tested from October 2012 through December 2016 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service (CMS) as a model to promote health and reduce the overall cost of care.

CPC+ is a five-year pilot model that builds on the CPC initiative to incent practice readiness, aligned payment reform, performance-based incentives and robust data sharing. CMS is now soliciting practice applications for selected regions to begin in January of 2017.

Status of CPC+ In State of Maine

On August 1, CMS announced the selection of 14 regions for participation in CPC+. **Maine was not among those selected for participation.** [Click here](#) to read more about the announcement and learn about the participating regions.

ACO Webinars on MACRA—Register Now!

In addition to providing updates and education about MACRA through our newsletter, the MaineHealth ACO will be launching a series of weekly webinars with informative content on the MACRA law. These webinars will be hosted by Jen Moore, Chief Operating Officer of the MaineHealth ACO, and will provide varying levels of information MACRA from a “30K to Ground Level View.” Webinars are set to begin September 20 and run through October 3.

If you are interested in joining, please [register here](#).

We will be providing more specific content information on these webinars in our upcoming newsletters.