

## Health Care Stimulus (ARRA HITECH) Frequently Asked Questions



### **Q. Is implementing an Electronic Health Record (EHR) system required by law?**

A. No, implementing an EHR is not currently required by law. However, if you want to participate in the HITECH Stimulus program, implementing a certified EHR that is used in a meaningful way is one of the requirements.



### **Q. Are our insurance payments affected by the bill?**

A. Not at this time.

### **Q. What are the Stimulus incentive requirements?**

A. Under the current interpretation of the bill, a provider must accept Medicare, meet the patient payor threshold of greater than 30% for Medicaid (20% for pediatricians), deliver a minimum of 20 hours per week of patient care services, provide at least 80% of the services to patients of the practice, implement a certified EHR solution and show meaningful use of the technology. If a provider is practicing solely in a hospital environment, such as anesthesiologists, pathologists, radiologists, emergency physicians, etc., they are not eligible.

### **Q. If my practice has 4 providers, could the group qualify for a total payment of \$176,000 under the Medicare incentive?**

A. Yes, if each of the providers meet the criteria by 2012 then the group could receive a total of \$176,000 under the Medicare incentives.



### **Q. If my practice currently uses an EHR system, can the providers in my practice still qualify for the incentive payments?**

A. Yes, if your system is certified, you can show meaningful use of the technology and you meet all other requirements.

### **Q. If our practice uses a billing service, can we qualify for the incentive payments?**

A. Yes, as long as the practice meets all criteria as stated in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

### **Q. I have additional questions about the Stimulus Act, what should I do?**

A. Additional questions and answers are on our website and in our eNewsletter. If you don't find what you're looking for, call or email us and we will do our best to find answers for you.



Call us at: 770 662-0312

Email us at: [MedIT@lansystems.com](mailto:MedIT@lansystems.com)

*This information represents LAN Systems' interpretation of the bill and should not be considered legal advice. It should be used for informational purposes only.*