

Care Models: Value-Based Care in Oncology

The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) went into effect in 2019. According to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the goal of this legislation is to “reward better care, not just more care.” Intended to move the healthcare system to move from fee-for-service (FFS) care and toward value-based care (VBC), MACRA is designed to play a major role in the process. There are at least 14 quality measures within MACRA directed to oncology practices. Measures include advance care plans and quality of life indicators such as quantification of pain intensity, plan of care for relief of pain, proportion of patients receiving chemotherapy in the last 14 days of life, proportion of patients admitted to intensive care in the last 30 days of life, and proportion of patients admitted to hospice for less than 3 days.

Oncology practices may participate in the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). MIPS payment adjustments in 2022 will be based on submitting data and performance for MIPS categories in 2020.²⁵

Resources

- Leading Health and Cancer Advocacy Groups Unite to Reduce Racial Disparities in Cancer Care. NCCN. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5be307ae5b409bfaa68b1724/t/60352adc96d42552aea5da69/1614097117225/NCCN%2C+ACS+CAN%2C+and+NMQF.pdf>) and Microsoft PowerPoint - FINAL ECE Webinar Slide Deck_Handout.pptx (nccn.org)
- Understanding and addressing social determinants to advance cancer health equity in the United States: A blueprint for practice, research, and policy. CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians, by Alcaraz et al. Oct. 2019. <https://doi.org/10.3322/caac.21586>
- What is MIPS? Health Insight. MIPS Measures for Oncologists (healthinsight.org)
- Quality Payment Program. CMS 2020. <https://qpp.cms.gov/about/qpp-overview>
- Building Healthy Communities through Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) Approaches. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/ncccp/priorities/cross-cutting-priorities.htm>
- A Practitioner’s Guide for Advancing Health Equity: Community Strategies for Preventing Chronic Disease. <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/pdf/healthequityguide.pdf>
- Costs of Cancer. October 2020 edition. ACS and CAN. <https://www.fightcancer.org/sites/default/files/National%20Documents/Costs-of-Cancer-2020-10222020.pdf>