



Washington State EHR Incentive Program WHITE PAPER #2: Adopt, Implement, Upgrade

Updated April 2016

INTRODUCTION

Only in the first year of participation, and only in the *Medicaid* EHR Incentive Program, eligible professionals (EPs) and eligible hospitals can receive incentive payments through an option called “adopt, implement, or upgrade,” commonly known as “AIU,” instead of applying for MU (Meaningful Use). The AIU option is offered in recognition of EPs and hospitals that may not be ready to “meaningfully use” certified EHR technology in the first payment year, and additionally, may require initial up-front resources to “adopt, implement, or upgrade” the certified EHR technology required to participate in the program.

DEFINITIONS

- **Adopt an EHR:** Acquire certified EHR technology. It does *not* have to be installed.
- **Implement an EHR:** Begin using certified EHR technology (installing or utilization of certified EHR technology capable of meeting meaningful use requirements)
- **Upgrade to an EHR:** Expand existing technology to meet certification requirements

DOCUMENTATION

States must verify that the requirements for EHR Technology have been met each year and CMS suggests the submission of verifiable documentation. Please include 2 of these 3 items:

- Signed agreement with the vendor (usually first and signature page are sufficient)
- Invoice dated in your program year.
- Proof of payment dated in your program year.

You will also be asked to provide:

- Copy of your ONC Certification from the ONC website.
<http://oncchpl.force.com/ehrcert>
- Encounter report (see White Paper #8- Encounter Reports/Summaries).
- Other documentation as requested.

Any further questions regarding AIU documentation or other issues concerning the EHR Incentive Program in Washington State, please contact HealthIT@hca.wa.gov.