MIPS: Are you in the know? **CMS will Apply MIPS Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Policy in Response to COVID-19; Hardship Application Process has been Reopened, Who should file?**

In addition to extending the 2019 Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) data submission deadline to April 30, 2020 at 8 PM ET, the revised MIPS extreme and uncontrollable circumstances policy will automatically grant neutral payment adjustments to MIPS eligible clinicians who do not submit their MIPS data by the April 30 deadline. The revised policy also gives participants a chance to reverse previously submitted scores that fall within the penalty range.

If you submitted data in 2 or more performance categories (Quality, Promoting Interoperability and/or Improvement Activities) and your final MIPS score will be less than 30 points, you will need to complete the **Hardship Application** to override your previous submission and avoid a negative payment adjustment.

If you are a MIPS eligible clinician and do not submit any MIPS data by April 30, 2020, you won’t need to take any additional action to qualify for the automatic extreme and uncontrollable circumstances policy. You will be automatically identified and receive a neutral payment adjustment for the 2021 MIPS payment year.

- CMS has updated the **QPP Participation Status Tool** so eligible clinicians can see if the policy has been automatically applied to them.
- CMS also reopened the **MIPS extreme and uncontrollable circumstances application** for individuals, groups, and virtual groups who started, but are unable to complete their data submission.
- **If you submitted data in 2 or more performance categories (Quality, Promoting Interoperability and/or Improvement Activities) and your final MIPS score will be less than 30 points, you will need to complete the application to override your previous submission and avoid a negative payment adjustment.**

Do you have questions or are you unsure what you need to do next? The QPP Resource Center® is available **Monday through Friday, 9am until 5pm ET**, by phone, email or chat. Please reach out to us at 844-777-4968 or email us at QPP.TA@altarum.org.

Sincerely,

**QPP Resource Center® for the Midwest**

*Unsure of what to do?* That’s where we come in! We are the QPP Resource Center® for the Midwest, a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) funded collaboration among 10 key partners across Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, focused on supporting providers in small practices and rural or underserved areas. Our network of experienced technical assistance organizations provides free help to eligible clinicians as they navigate participation in the Quality Payment Program.

*This material was prepared by the QPP Resource Center®, the Quality Payment Program for the Midwest, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy.*