

# are you ready for MACRA?

## ASCO's Top 10 List for MACRA Readiness

Program changes under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) are set to begin on January 1, 2017, and will completely transform Medicare reimbursement and care delivery for oncology practices throughout the United States. ASCO has compiled the top 10 things you need to do to prepare your practice for MACRA implementation and offers guidance for each step of the way.



**1. Participate in the 2016 CMS Quality Reporting Programs** and avoid 2018 penalties: PQRS and the EHR Incentive Program (Meaningful Use).  Are you reporting in the PQRS program today?  Have you attested to Meaningful Use Stage II?  Are you using ASCO's [QOPI](#) program for PQRS reporting?



**2. Obtain your Quality and Resource Use Reports (QRUR)**, the basis for the value-based modifier.  Has someone from your practice registered with CMS to obtain your QRUR?  Have you reviewed your most recent performance on quality and cost?



**3. Focus on performance improvement in your practice.**  Have you reviewed your quality measure benchmarks in the QRUR to understand what is required for above-average performance?  Have you implemented strategies and workflows in your practice to be successful?  Can you demonstrate effective care coordination with primary care and other members of the patient's care team?  Are you participating in ASCO's [QOPI Certification Program](#) and/or the [Quality Training Program](#)?  Have you reviewed the inventory of [Clinical Practice Improvement Activities](#) in the MACRA regulation?



**4. Ensure data accuracy.**  Is your QRUR correct?  Are the NPIs for each provider in your practice accurate with the correct specialty, address, and group affiliation?



**5. Optimize your use of ICD-10 coding.**  Are you coding to the highest level of specificity for the patient's diagnoses?  Are you coding all comorbidities and concurrent conditions for your patients?



**6. Review your contracts** for the impact of value-based reimbursement.  Have you thought about the impact on your physician compensation model?  Do your contracts and/or professional service agreements with hospitals need to be adjusted?  Do you have commercial payer contracts tied to Medicare reimbursement rates?



**7. Evaluate your electronic health record.**  Does your EHR support quality reporting and practice improvement?  Does it include a robust (and user friendly) patient portal?  Does it have e-prescribing and health information exchange capabilities?  Can it produce a treatment plan and a post-treatment summary document for the patient?



**8. Evaluate your payer relationships and begin discussions with commercial payers about value-based reimbursement and alternative payment models.** Who are your top two or three commercial payers? \_\_\_\_\_  Have you discussed ASCO's Patient-Centered Oncology Payment ([PCOP](#)) model with them?



**9. Prepare your practice staff for value-based practice.**  Does your staff understand the changes that are coming?  Is your practice culturally prepared for the shift to value-based payment models?  Are you employing elements of an oncology medical home including pathway utilization and ER and hospitalization avoidance?



**10. ASCO's MACRA resources.**

Check out ASCO's MACRA [calendar of events](#) and register for educational events, including webinars and in-person workshops, designed to help you and your practice prepare for MACRA.