



# What You Need to Know About 2018 Improvement Activities

How to succeed in the 2018 MIPS Improvement Activities performance category



Presented by:  
Alysén Casaccio, BHA, RN-BC  
Senior Clinical Informatics Analyst  
Mingle Analytics

# What we plan to cover:

- ✓ Improvement Activities reporting requirements
- ✓ Overview of the IA sub-categories
- ✓ New Improvement Activities for 2018
- ✓ Identifying areas for improvement in your practice

## Q&A

We'll stay on after the presentation  
to answer your questions!

# Introducing Mingle Analytics



## Analytics for Value Based Health Care

- #1 registry by volume for Group submissions in 2015
- Trusted by more than 30,000 providers
- 99%+ submission success rate

More that 50 team members dedicated to helping you succeed with Medicare reporting

# Objectives

After this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Identify ways to find areas of improvement.
- Recognize differences in IA sub-categories.
- Assess the new IA list.
- Compare resource time.

# Every Practice is Different

Why to assess your practice first

- Assessment, then intervention
- Formal steps help
- Freezing
- Staff engagement

# Finding Opportunity

Analyze routine processes:

- Patient survey results
- Find your bottlenecks: are you using your entire team?
- Environmental walkabouts
- Peer review & error reporting:  
most errors/events are a process problem
- Brainstorming: list barriers & ideas to overcome them

# 21 New Improvement Activities

Sub-Category	Number of New Activities
Population Management	5
Expanded Practice Access	1
Care Coordination	3
Beneficiary Engagement	0
Patient Safety and Practice Assessment	9
Achieving Health Equity	2
Emergency Response and Preparedness	0
Behavioral and Mental Health	1

# Sub-Category: PM

## Population Management (PM)

- Groups of patients
- Chronic illness management
- Population identification

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_PM_12 Medium Weight	Population Empanelment <i>*patient-facing practices*</i>



# More PM Examples

## Sample of New PM Activities

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_PM_17 Medium Weight	Participation in Population Health Research <i>*all practices*</i>
IA_PM_18 Medium Weight	Provide Clinical Community Linkages <i>*primary care working with community health workers*</i>
IA_PM_19 Medium Weight	Glycemic Screening Services <i>*pre-diabetic populations*</i>
IA_PM_20 Medium Weight	Advance Care Planning <i>*all practices, but especially 65 yrs +*</i>

# Sub-Category: EPA

## Expanded Practice Access (EPA)

- Expanded hours
- Telehealth
- Additional support

## One New Measure for 2018:

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_EPA_5 Medium Weight	Participation in User Testing of the Quality Payment Program Website ( <a href="https://qpp.cms.gov/">https://qpp.cms.gov/</a> ) <i>*any practice*</i>

# Sub-Category: CC

## Care Coordination (CC)

– Communication and transitions

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_CC_15 Medium Weight	Pre-Operative Surgical Home Care Coordination <i>*surgical practices*</i>
IA_CC_16 Medium Weight	Primary Care and Behavioral Health Bilateral Exchange of Information for Shared Patients <i>*primary care or BH*</i>
IA_CC_17 High Weight	Patient Navigator Program <i>*oncology, transplant, or other department of complex diagnoses*</i>

# Sub-Category: BE

## Beneficiary Engagement (BE)

- Shared decision-making
- Self-management
- Patient education

No new measures for 2018

# Sub-Category: PSPA

## Patient Safety and Practice Assessment (PSPA)

- Organizational assessment
- Organizational priorities
- Maintenance of board certification
- CME

9 new measures for 2018

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_PSPA_22 Medium Weight	CDC Training on CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain <i>*all prescribers*</i>

# More PSPA Activities

## Sample of New PSPA Activities

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_PSPA_23 High Weight	Completion of CDC Training on Antibiotic Stewardship <i>*all prescribers*</i>
IA_PSPA_25 Medium Weight	Cost Display for Laboratory and Radiographic Orders (doi: 10.1007/s11606-015-3226-5) <i>*all ordering clinicians*</i>
IA_PSPA_26 Medium Weight	Communication of Unscheduled Visit for Adverse Drug Event and Nature of Event <i>*urgent/emergent care and specialty practices*</i>

# PSPA Can Make it All Easier

Just a couple more...

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_PSPA_28 Medium Weight	Completion of an Accredited Safety or Quality Improvement Program <i>*all practices*</i>

And one from last year:

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_PSPA_20 Medium Weight	Leadership engagement in regular guidance and demonstrated commitment for implementing practice improvement changes <i>*all practices*</i>

# Sub-Category: AHE

## Achieving Health Equity (AHE)

- Underserved populations
- Minority populations
- Rural

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_AHE_5 Medium Weight	MIPS Eligible Clinician Leadership in Clinical Trials or CBPR (Community Based Participatory Research) <i>*all practices*</i>
IA_AHE_6 High Weight	Provide Education Opportunities for New Clinicians <i>*small, underserved, or rural practices*</i>



# Sub-Category: ERP

## Emergency Response & Preparedness (ERP)

- Medical Reserve
- Emergency Systems
- Volunteer Work

No new measures for 2018.

# Sub-Category: BMH

## Behavioral and Mental Health (BMH)

– Physical/mental health integration

Activity ID/Weight	Activity Name
IA_BMH_9 High Weight	Unhealthy Alcohol Use for Patients with Co-occurring Conditions of Mental Health and Substance Abuse and Ambulatory Care Patients <i>*any practices*</i>

# Audit Preparedness

What do the best organizations have?

- Audit packets
- Good Documentation
- Solid Operational Processes
- Screenshots
- Supportive policies
- Supportive staff

# MIPS Solutions™

Submission is the easy part.  
Let us help you with the hard part.

- ✓ Create a plan to avoid penalty
- ✓ Optimize incentive and potential bonus
- ✓ Select the right measures
- ✓ Analyze and improve performance
- ✓ Successfully submit data to Medicare

Sign up today to get started.

<https://mingleanalytics.com/get-started/>



# Q&A

Tina asks:

Which IA are appropriate for getting bonus points by reporting through an EHR?

# Q&A

Craig writes:

I'd like to confirm some correspondence I received from the CMS/QNHD Help Desk that a practice cannot repeat Improvement Activities from one year to the next.

# Q&A

Jeanette asks:

What are IA's specifically for Pathology?

# Q&A

Debbie asks:

Please address improvement activity CDC training on CDC guidelines for prescribing opioids for pain. If we register as a group and one physician completes all modules have we met our requirement to avoid a penalty?



# Q&A

Daria asks:

How many patients and what time frame is a sufficient for reporting IA for 2018 under MIPS?

# Q&A

Charisse asks:

What is the scoring system for Improvement Activities? Do I need one example or a percentage of all patients seen?

# Q&A

Judy asks:

If you are a member of an ACO, does participation in the ACO count toward the Improvement Activities category?

# Q&A

Gina asks:

How do we improve our IA score?

# Q&A

Pamela asks:

We are an internal medicine practice. We just joined an ACO (MSSP) Track I. Should we still use Mingle to do our IA and ACI?  
Are the measures the same for ACOs as private practice?

# Q&A

Becki asks:

A presenter at a recent conference said that you don't have to implement something new, just report one of the "improvement options" that you are currently doing. True?

# Questions?

Register for webinars or Access Recordings @  
<http://mingleanalytics.com/webinars>

For Peace of Mind - Hire a Professional  
Sign up now for our help with your 2018 MIPS submissions  
And Reduce your Risk of Penalty