

WHAT IS MARYLAND'S EQIP?

The Episode Quality Improvement Program (EQIP) is a value-based Medicare incentive payment opportunity for Maryland practitioners.

- EQIP is a voluntary, Advanced Alternative Payment Model (AAPM) for Maryland generalists, specialists, or other CMS-approved practitioners.
- EQIP engages practitioners who treat Maryland Medicare beneficiaries in care transformation and value-based payment through an episode-based approach.
- EQIP will hold participants accountable for achieving cost and quality targets for one or more Clinical Episodes.
- EQIP Entities have an opportunity to earn a portion of the savings they create in their selected Clinical Episode(s) as a lump-sum incentive payment.

MAIN GOALS OF EQIP

- ✓ **Financial Accountability**: Increase practitioners' accountability for improving quality of care and reducing healthcare spending related to episodes of care.
- ✓ **Care Redesign**: Support and encourage practitioners interested in continuously transforming care to align with value-based payment policies and Maryland hospital Global Budget Revenues (GBRs).
- ✓ **Clinical Data Analysis and Feedback**: Reduce episode costs by eliminating unnecessary or low-value care, shifting care to lower-cost settings when clinically appropriate, increasing care coordination, and fostering quality improvement.
- ✓ **Practitioner Engagement**: Shift towards practitioner-focused, value-based care reimbursement to create environments that stimulate rapid development and deployment of new evidence-based knowledge.
- ✓ **Patient and Caregiver Engagement**: Increase the likelihood of better health at lower cost through patient education and ongoing communication throughout the clinical episode.

