

eHealth Incentive

Introduction

The PIP provides a number of incentives that aim to encourage practices to improve the quality of care provided to patients. Practices must be accredited against the RACGP standards to participate in the PIP.

eHealth Incentive Payments

Payments are calculated at \$6.50 per Standardised Whole Patient Equivalent (SWPE) per year. Payments are capped at \$12,500 per quarter (\$50,000 pa) and made by Medicare as part of each quarterly PIP payment. As with all PIP payments, practices must have been compliant for a full 3 month period before claiming. This is an ongoing arrangement, so to be eligible for the November payment for example, practices must comply by 31 July. Once practices comply once, they're assumed compliant from then on unless they inform Medicare otherwise.

Requirements

The PIP eHealth Incentive has three components. Practices must meet the requirements of each of the components to qualify for payments.

1- Secure Messaging

In order to meet this requirement, practices must have a NEHTA [compliant secure messaging capability](#) that will allow patient clinical and medical information to be securely exchanged where possible – see *NEHTA Eligible Suppliers for PIP eHealth Incentive document*.

2 - Individual & Location PKI

In order to meet this requirement, practices must have (or have applied for) a location/site PKI certificate. Each medical practitioner working at the practice must also have (or have applied for) an individual PKI certificate. Locums are exempt from this requirement.

3 - Clinical Resources

In order to meet this requirement, practices must provide all medical practitioners from the practice with access to the current editions of a range of key electronic clinical resources to improve the quality of prescribing, support quality care and enhance health outcomes.

PKI registration:

Registration forms for individual and location/site PKI certificates are available from the Medicare Australia website at www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/pkiforms. Further information on PKI is available at www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/pki or phone: 1800 700 199 (select option 3)

Access to electronic clinical resources

Practices must provide practitioners with access to:

- at least **one** key electronic clinical resource from **each** of the categories in Table 1 overleaf (minimum of 3 resources) and
- at least **three** resources from **any** of the categories in Table 2 overleaf.



Table 1: Key Electronic Clinical Resources

Category	Examples
Concise, evidence-based guide to recommendations about patient management that covers all common disorders seen in general practice (latest edition)	e-Therapeutic Guidelines www.tg.org.au
Formulary of medicines available in Australia that provides comparative drug information and is independent of pharmaceutical company involvement	Australian Medicines Handbook www.amh.net.au
Evidence-based guide to preventive activities in general practice	RACGP Guidelines for Preventive Activities in General Practice (Red Book) www.racgp.org.au/guidelines/redbook

Table 2: Other Electronic Clinical Resources

Category	Examples
Journal of evidence-based clinical care	Bandolier – www.medicine.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/index.html Clinical Evidence - http://clinicalevidence.bmj.com/ceweb/index.jsp
Clinical resources	Australian Immunisation Handbook - http://www.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook-home Assessing fitness to drive – www.austroads.com.au/aftd
Regulatory resources	MBS - http://www.health.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/Medicare-Benefits-Schedule-MBS-1 PBS - http://www.pbs.gov.au/html/healthpro/home