

Proposed Rule for MIPS 2021 Performance Period

MIPS Value Pathways (MVPs)

CMS was intending to begin to transition to MVPs for the 2021 MIPS Performance Period; however, due to the Public Health Emergency (PHE) due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resultant need for clinician focus on the response, their timeline has changed accordingly such that the proposal for initial MVPs will be delayed until at least the 2022 performance year.

2021 Performance Threshold: CMS is proposing a performance threshold of 50 points for the 2021 Performance Period that will impact your 2023 payment period. This proposal is a decrease of 10 points less than the 60-point threshold finalized for 2021 in the CY 2020 PFS Rule. CMS did not propose any changes to the additional performance threshold of 85 points for exceptional performance.

2021 Performance Category Weights

The Quality performance category to be weighted at 40% (5% decrease from PY 2020)

The Cost performance category to be weighted at 20% (5% increase from PY 2020)

The Promoting Interoperability performance category to be weighted at 25% (no change from PY 2020)

The Improvement Activities performance category to be weighted at 15% (no change from PY 2020)

CMS Web Interface Reporting Option: CMS is proposing to remove the CMS Web Interface as a collection type and submission type for reporting MIPS quality measures beginning with the 2021 performance period.

Complex Patient Bonus COVID-19 Update in 2020: CMS is proposing to increase the complex patient bonus from a 5- to 10-point maximum for clinicians, groups, virtual groups, and APM Entities for 2020 performance only to offset the additional complexity of their patient population due to COVID-19.

2021 Quality Measures

Proposed Quality Measure Additions to the PT & OT Specialty Set

CMS is proposing to add 2 Quality Measures to the PT & OT Specialty set (See Table Group B in Proposed Rule):

Proposed Quality Measure Deletions to the PT & OT Specialty Set

CMS is proposing to delete the Quality Measure #282 from the PT & OT Specialty Set due to it's duplicative of Quality Measure #182:

Quality Measures with Substantive Changes for 2021 Performance Year

See Table Group D in proposed rule for the specific substantive changes for each Quality Measure

Topped Out Measures

CMS is proposing to apply a cap of 7 achievement points, for the 2021 performance period and beyond, to measures that are identified as topped out for 2 or more consecutive years including the 2021 MIPS performance period benchmarks.

Reweighting Policies

CMS is proposing to continue their reweighting policies for the Promoting Interoperability and Cost Performance Categories for physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech-language pathologists.

To access the proposed rule, click [HERE](#). To access the 2021 Quality Payment Program Proposed Rule Overview Fact Sheet, click [HERE](#).