

The Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) is a program designed to improve the quality of care received by Medicare beneficiaries. Audiologists who bill Medicare Part B beneficiaries must participate in 2013 to avoid deductions in reimbursement in 2015. (*Part A hospital and skilled nursing facilities are exempt from this requirement*).

Audiologists are required to report on at least one quality measure from 1/1/2013-12/31/2013 to avoid a 1.5% payment reduction on each Medicare claim submitted in 2015. Until December 31, 2014, a 0.5% bonus will be given when the audiologist has reported on at least two measures for all eligible patients.

Beginning January 1, 2015, the voluntary incentive program is scheduled to end and a reimbursement adjustment will be made if audiologists have not reported on at least one audiology PQRS measure at least one time. The 2015 reduction is based on reporting in 2013 and in 2015 the reduction will be 1.5% of all 2013 eligible claims. In 2016, the reduction will be 2.0% of all 2014 eligible claims.

For up to date information regarding using the CMS 1500 claim form, reportable measures, and CMS Minimum Reporting Requirements, please refer to ASHA's AQC link

<http://www.asha.org/Advocacy/audiologyPQRI/>