

Eli's Rehab Report

Industry Notes: Watch Out For That PQRS Letter

If you have not received that all important letter from the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** (CMS), then look out for it. Providers who qualify for participation in the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) have been mailed letters informing them whether or not they will be subject to the negative two percent payment adjustment on the basis of their 2014 PQRS participation.

"Eligible providers include audiologists and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) who bill for Medicare Part B outpatient services in the following settings:

- private practice;
- group practice;
- clinics that do not have an affiliation with a hospital or other inpatient facility; and
- university clinics," says a September 17 **American Speech-Language-Hearing Association** (ASHA) press release.

"If audiologists and SLPs participated in PQRS for 2014 and believe they are receiving the payment adjustment in error, there is an informal review request period from September 9, 2015 - November 9, 2015. Final decisions will be issued by e-mail within 90 days of the original request for an informal review," it adds.

Remember that the PQRS measures for 2016 have yet to be announced.

You can also check out these resources for more on PQRS requirements: www.qualitynet.org;
<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/PQRS/index.html>;
<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/PQRS/Payment-Adjustment-Information.html>.