

ACO UPDATE

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Important Changes to Hardship Exemptions

CMS has updated the "Hardship Exemptions" for PY2018.

This impacts those practices who would otherwise be required to report Advancing Care Information (ACI) or now known as Promoting Interoperability (PI).

The new exclusions for 2018 include:

- 1. An exemption for small practices *defined as practices with less than* <u>15 providers</u>
- 2. An exemption for practices whose EMRs have been decertified (i.e., they previously met Meaningful Use but their vendor does not support ACI)

In order to be covered under the "Hardship Exemption," the provider needs to file an application. The application period for hardship exemptions is open now. See the link here: https://qpp.cms.gov/mips/exception-applications

Providers must call the QPP to verbally request the hardship exemption. The deadline to request an exemption is December 31st. More details on the "Hardship Exemption" can be found at the following link: https://qpp.cms.gov/mips/promoting-interoperability/hardship-exception

If your practice is located...

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