

Update on Idaho's Progress

Many of you are wondering how Idaho is progressing towards implementing the electronic health record incentive program. Well, there are really three major steps that need to be taken before Idaho can implement:

1. Step One – receive approval from CMS on a document that explains how we will go about our planning and what we expect to spend to do that, this is called a P-APD. Idaho's P-APD has been submitted and approved.
2. Step Two – receive approval from CMS for a detailed plan on how Medicaid will administer the program, this is referred to as a State Medicaid HIT Plan (SMHP). It must include all of the details about how eligibility is determined, how provider payment amounts are to be calculated, how Medicaid expects to audit, the plan for communication with providers, how incentive payments are to be tracked, how Medicaid will collect meaningful use data, etc. Along with the SMHP, CMS must approve a document that details the budget for implementation. This is referred to as an Implementation Advanced Planning Document (I-APD). This work is in process.
3. Step Three - Program development and implementation. This includes making all necessary system changes and assigning staff to run the program.

So what is new and what is the timeline?

- A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on 11-2-10. That RFP is seeking help writing Idaho's State Medicaid HIT Plan as well as the Implementation-Advanced Planning Document.
- It is hoped there will be a vendor/consultant on board by January 2011 and that the SMHP and I-APD will be submitted to CMS by June 2011.
- Development and implementation will follow approval from CMS and the goal still remains to implement as soon as possible after that approval is received.

Stay Tuned!