

As many of you may already know, radiology clinical decision support was mandated for ordering advanced imaging studies in a bill known as PAMA (Protecting Access to Medicare Act) signed into law in April 2014. This bill requires the use of clinical decision support prior to ordering of advanced imaging, defined as CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine studies in certain practice settings. The implementation date mandated by CMS has been delayed to 1/1/2020, at which point CMS will reimburse only those advanced studies (CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine) which have demonstrated use of the clinical decision support.

In addition, the recent CMS final rule that was published at the end of November confirms the use of radiology CDS as a measure in the Merit based Incentive Program (MIPS) with possibility of bonus points and thus physician reimbursement beginning in 2018.

Given the possibility of bonus points available, we are looking for additional volunteer physicians to expand our current pilot group. The benefits of participating include earlier experience with use of this tool in preparation for its mandated use in 2020. In addition, you will be able to actively shape the tool to better suit your needs, as we will continue to invite as much feedback as possible in order to optimize its use to your liking.

**We hope you will consider participating in this extended pilot program as the more input we receive the better we can make the software. Just as importantly, we would also like to have as many of your residents as possible participate.** If you are able to volunteer you and/or your residents, please send Dr. Matalon or myself an email and we will add you to the list and send additional information.

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