



Division of Medical Services  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S401  
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437  
P: 501.682.8292  
F: 501.682.1197  
HUMANSERVICES.ARKANSAS.GOV

## Episodes of Care Announcement

*July 2020*

### **Proposed Changes to the Episodes of Care Financial Incentive Program**

Arkansas Medicaid is announcing proposed changes to the Episodes of Care program. Beginning July 1, 2020, (state fiscal year 2021) the “financial” Episodes of Care will be transitioned to “informational” reports thereby ending the financial incentive program.

*Beginning with the July 2020 reports release, only reconciliation reports will be published.* The new informational reports, modeled after episode technology, will replace the existing reports, and function the same as the financial episode reports. Informational episodes are based on claims data, and inclusions and exclusions are still based on business and clinical reasons. They are also risk adjusted, and quality is measured. An average episode cost is calculated for comparison with one’s peers; however, there are no financial category determinations of “commendable”, “acceptable”, and “unacceptable”.

Because informational reports are based solely on claims, self-reported quality measures through the AHIN provider portal will no longer be required. The ability to report quality measures for reconciliation reports, published during state fiscal year 2020, will still be accepted until December 1, 2020.

Each informational report has been updated and enhanced where applicable. Updated code-sets, including global and episode-based exclusions, have been applied. All risk adjustments have been remodeled based on current data, and where appropriate, quality measures have been removed or expanded. Informational reports publish the report summary and the episode details separately, and only the summary report will be published on the AHIN Provider Portal. A separate spreadsheet is available that provides episode details and will be available upon request from the Provider Assistance Center (PAC) or your AFMC Provider Relations outreach specialist.

Each informational report has a “Quick Reference Guide” which provides a summary breakdown of how the episode functions. These quick reference guides can be found in the Episodes of Care section of the [paymentinitiative.org](http://paymentinitiative.org) website.

A process to provide a new report publication and distribution method through the Medicaid Provider Portal is currently in development. October reports are planned to be available on both the AHIN provider portal and the Medicaid Provider Portal. After the first of the year, all reports will be published only on the Medicaid provider portal and will include the episode detail spreadsheet.

For more information please contact the Provider Assistance Center, APiI Help Desk, at 501.301.8311 or 866.322.4696, or your [AFMC Provider Relations outreach specialist](#).