

## **I'm a solo practitioner and I haven't started participating in PQRS – is it too late to avoid the 2017 Payment Penalties?**

Eligible providers who want to avoid a -2% payment penalty in 2017 must meet the reporting thresholds set forth by the program for 2015.

As mentioned previously, there are several ways to report PQRS data. The sooner a reporting method is selected, the better, particularly if the claims method is selected. When using the claims method, measures are reported by adding modifiers to the Medicare claims. With the claims method, the provider is required to report on at least 50 percent of his or her Medicare patients for a 12 month period. CMS does *not* allow providers to go back and resubmit claims for the purpose of PQRS reporting, so starting the PQRS program with this method several months into the year may mean the provider does not reach the 50 percent reporting threshold.

More information is available at the [AAN PQRS Website](#).

The [AMA's PQRS Website](#) also contains helpful information.