

## **MEANINGFUL USE STAGE 3 PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTING**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 aims to accelerate the adoption of health information technology through the federal incentive program commonly referred to as Meaningful Use (MU). MU provides incentive payments to eligible professionals (EP) and eligible hospitals (EH) that are able to demonstrate the "meaningful use" of electronic health records technology. EPs and EHs must demonstrate MU through a number of objectives and measures. One of those objectives, Public Health Reporting, has multiple measure options related to reporting data to public health agencies.

Florida's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, E-FORCSE, maintained by the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) identified itself as a specialized registry for MU Stage 2. EPs may continue to utilize E-FORCSE for MU Stage 3, however, the registry is now classified as a public health registry. EPs must comply with one of the following to meet MU requirements:

- EPs may submit patient specific controlled substance dispensing information electronically to E-FORCSE; or
- 2. EPs may electronically **retrieve** patient specific controlled substance dispensing information from E-FORCSE.

To meet this objective, the EPs would need to: (1) electronically submit dispensing data using the American Society for Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP version 4.2A) standards, specifications, and vocabularies required by E-FORCSE; or (2) register with E-FORCSE and retrieve patient specific controlled substance dispensing information. For information on how to **submit** patient-specific controlled substance dispensing information, go to https://pmpclearinghouse.net. For information on how to register to **retrieve** patient specific controlled substance dispensing information, go to https://florida.pmpaware.net.

The Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs will provide EHR incentive payments to EPs as they adopt, implement, upgrade, or demonstrate meaningful use of certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT). EPs need to successfully attest to demonstrating MU of certified EHRs to qualify for an incentive payment through the Medicare EHR Incentive Program administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Section 893.055, Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires health care practitioners to consult E-FORCSE to review their patients' controlled substance dispensing history prior to prescribing or dispensing a controlled substance in schedules II-V, as defined in Section 893.03, F.S. Information from E-FORCSE may be utilized to protect patients' health and safety, while supporting sound clinical prescribing, dispensing, and improving health outcomes. For more information about enrolling or reporting controlled substance dispensing data to E-FORCSE for MU contact E-FORCSE at e-forcse@FLHealth.gov.

For more information visit www.e-forcse.com