



Healthcare news has not been in the headlines. Healthcare has not become less important, but considering what is taking place in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Ukraine, Russia and many African Nations, something very close to home has been relegated to the back pages. The bottom line; the public is not paying attention, and many doctors are not either. This is a very bad mistake!

### THE CUTTING EDGE

PPD is on the cutting edge in providing you access to decision makers. We have started a series of personal meetings with important national leaders. Our first one will take place on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at 8:30 AM (place to be announced).



A small group will meet with Senator Rand Paul, a potential presidential candidate and headline maker. We still have about 5 places available if you are interested so please contact me now if you wish to attend ([reed.wilson@privatepracticedoctors.com](mailto:reed.wilson@privatepracticedoctors.com)). This is an opportunity for unprecedented access to an individual who may one day lead the nation. The cost is only \$500.

### WEBSITE WOES

In Obamacare news, you thought that the website woes were over. Well think again. According to the Health and Human Services Inspector General, 1/3 of contractors have cost over-runs. 7 contractors exceeded their contract by over 100%.



Oh, by the way. The websites payment system is still not functional and will not be until 2015.

#### EXCUSE ME...EXACTLY WHO IS STILL ENROLLED

Months after enrollment, the government has still to release how many people actually paid their insurance premium of those that signed up. Aetna, one of the largest insurers estimates that 30% either did not pay their first bill or will stop paying before the end of the year. If that was not enough...

More than 300,000 "immigrants" have failed to respond to letters asking them to prove they were in this country legally. Hmm. Something tells me this will not be enforced, stay tuned.

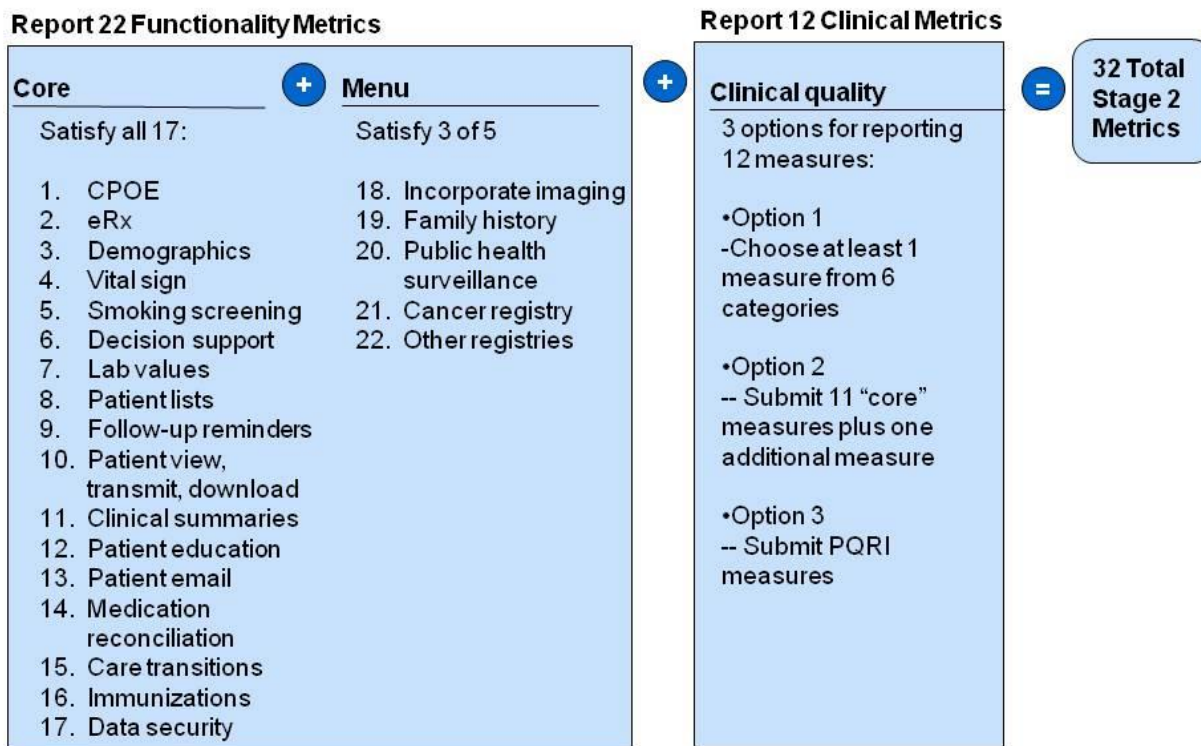
#### SPEAKING OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

California Endowment is a spin off nonprofit with [links](#) to a top insurance company. It was created when Blue Cross of California split into the nonprofit California Endowment and WellPoint Health Benefits. Now California Endowment is pushing to have Obamacare cover illegal immigrants. Why, you may ask. As usual, all you need to do is follow the money. WellPoint-Anthem Blue Cross won the largest enrollment of any insurer on the California exchange, accounting for 30 percent of the state's Obamacare sign-ups at the end of the open enrollment period April 15, according to the [L.A. Times](#). They're duly hiking premium rates by 4.6 percent for 2015. Many of these individuals are subsidized and paid for by the state. The insurance companies are the winners.

#### MEANINGFUL USE 2

Did you enjoy Meaningful Use 1. Then you are sure to enjoy the brewing disaster of Meaningful Use 2. So far 1,898 eligible professionals attested to Stage 2 of the meaningful use program, remember there about 900,000 physicians in the US. That's a whopping 0.2% of docs. If you don't know this is what is required...

**Exhibit 1**  
**Stage 2 Meaningful Use Reporting Requirements**



What is your reward? In 2014 your payment for this headache will be \$8000. Some of the core goals of Stage 2 include providing clinical summaries for patients for each office visit, using EHR technology to identify patient-specific educational resources, and submitting electronic data to immunization registries

“The penalty for failing to achieve Stage 2 meaningful use in 2014 for a physician will be 1% of the physician’s Medicare reimbursement. Since the average independently practicing physician receives around \$100,000 in annual Medicare reimbursements, the penalty would be a mere \$1,000. Compare that amount to the tens of thousands it will cost to meet Stage 2 requirements and the choice seems easy, especially when benefits of meaningful use to patients are still unclear.”

Below please find your penalty for not completing meaningful use starting next year. Please also note on the far right of the graph that the penalties increase every year. What may not be painful year one, may become more painful as the years progress.

*Medicare EHR Incentive Program*

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015+
2011	\$18,000				
2012	\$12,000	\$18,000			
2013	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$15,000		
2014	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	
2015	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	1% penalty**
2016	\$0	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	2% penalty**
2017	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	3% penalty**
TOTAL	\$44,000	\$44,000	\$39,000	\$24,000	\$0

*\*Note: Years are calendar years    \*\*Penalties for non-participation*

**ON A MORE PERSONAL NOTE**

If you have office announcements such as new associates, office openings or new services offered and you want to get the message out to about 700 physicians, let us know. We will be glad to place the information in the newsletter.



**Space Available Notice – Beverly Hills**

We are happy to announce that we have an opening at our offices at 435 N. Roxbury Dr., Suite #300. The current occupants are Internists and Cardiologist/Internists. We have complete non-invasive cardiac equipment and total full service lab. If this sound like something you wish to explore call me at [reed.wilson@privatepracticedoctors.com](mailto:reed.wilson@privatepracticedoctors.com).