Update Deployment: Meaningful Use Stage 3 & Imaging Appropriate Use Criteria

October 31, 2016 - MEDITECH is actively developing solutions to meet several federal initiatives, including our 2015 Edition Certified EHR — which is required for Stage 3 of Meaningful Use (MU3) for EHS/CAHs and Eligible Clinicians, as well as the proposed Imaging Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) required under Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014. Development efforts are ongoing as we await final legislation and clarifications from the Federal Government. The following update deployment strategy will position your organization to meet these initiatives by the mandated deadline of January 1, 2018.

Meaningful Use Stage 3
As noted in this notification, we will begin deploying code required for MU3 reporting in early 2017. We will also certify our 5.67, 6.08, 6.15, and 6.16 releases as 2015 Edition CEHRT. If your organization is already at one of these base releases, your initial update will be delivered as a priority pack topoff. Otherwise, you will receive a full release update.

The initial update will include application code that will be required for MU3 reporting, with limited exceptions. Details on specific enhancements and changes will be provided as your delivery date approaches.

While this update will be the first step toward MU3, your organization will have a significant amount of work following the update. Taking this update early in 2017 will allow as much time as possible to work on testing interfaces and establishing new workflows to meet the MU3 requirements.

Imaging Appropriate Use Criteria
The Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 includes a requirement to promote an AUC program for any “advanced diagnostic imaging service.” The rule applies to the following settings:

- Physician offices
- Hospital outpatient departments (including Emergency Department)
- Ambulatory surgical centers.

In July 2016, the CMS 2016 Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) contained a notice that said the AUC will not be enforced prior to January 1, 2018. While we await final legislation from the Federal Government on AUC and associated rules, MEDITECH detailed our current strategy for meeting these requirements in this document (based on what has been proposed).

An additional priority pack topoff in 2017 will be required to obtain the code necessary to meet this federally-mandated initiative.
What Does This Mean to You?
Customers who will be participating in MU3 should plan to take multiple updates in 2017.

- In early 2017, your update will contain the majority of the code needed for MU3 and will allow you to begin testing interfaces and implementing new workflows.

- Additional topoff(s) later in 2017 will meet the Imaging AUC and will include any remaining application code necessary for MU3. You will also benefit from receiving any code changes developed based on feedback from the initial rollout of MU3 code. We expect these deliveries to begin sometime after March 2017.

Next Steps
In the coming month(s), please expect the following:

- A hardware evaluation task will be opened by MEDITECH under the TECH module to outline hardware considerations for your organization.

- You will be contacted by your account manager/HCIS coordinator to schedule your update(s).

Questions
Depending on the nature of your question, please utilize the following contacts:

- **Update Scheduling:** You will be contacted shortly to schedule your updates. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact your account manager/HCIS coordinator.

- **Imaging Appropriate Use Criteria:** Questions can be directed to Manager Rebecca Lancaster.

- **General ARRA Questions:** Please direct inquiries to the ARRA Mailbox.