

# F A Q

[ Meaningful Use ]

# Meaningful Use

## 1. To demonstrate Meaningful Use stage 1, which version of the following NextGen Healthcare products are required?

### EHR

If you are attempting to demonstrate Meaningful Use with NextGen® solutions only, you will need to install the NextGen® Ambulatory EHR version 5.6-SP1 with the electronic prescribing module enabled and the NextGen® Health Quality Measures (HQM) module installed.

*Important note: Upgrades, including interface testing, should be performed in a test environment before production.*

### KBM

The minimum reporting requirements for Meaningful Use stage 1 can be met with NextGen® Knowledge Base Model (KBM) versions 7.6.1, 7.7, or 7.8 with all the service packs correctly applied. However, NextGen KBM 7.9 (NextGen 5.6 required), when deployed with the correct service packs, will integrate the Meaningful Use measures into your clinical workflow. It is a greatly enhanced version and is the easiest and surest way for providers to document for Meaningful Use. This means that providers won't need to interrupt their workflow to search for a field required for Meaningful Use. Note: You must be on version 5.6 before you can upgrade to NextGen KBM 7.9.

If you plan to use NextGen KBM 7.6.1, 7.7, or 7.8, you must apply all of the service packs and apply them sequentially. If you don't have the latest service packs installed, you should do so now, so that when the final Meaningful Use service pack is made available, you will only need to apply that one. The service pack may be applied either before or after you upgrade the application to version 5.6 service pack 1.

## 2. What is the full list of NextGen® products required to help demonstrate Meaningful Use stage 1?

To acquire any of these products, contact your sales representative or Inside Sales at [insidesales@nextgen.com](mailto:insidesales@nextgen.com) or 215-657-7010.

## 3. What other products should be used to demonstrate Meaningful Use stage 1?

To acquire any of these products, contact your sales representative or Inside Sales at [insidesales@nextgen.com](mailto:insidesales@nextgen.com) or 215-657-7010.

- NextGen® Ambulatory EHR 5.6 SP1 with eRx enabled and applicable service packs installed in sequential order (provided under maintenance services)
- NextGen® KBM Version 7.6 or later (with all service packs installed in sequential order)  
While it is possible for a practice to qualify for Meaningful Use without using the NextGen KBM 7.6.1 or higher, the practice would be responsible for modifying its templates and creating its own reports, as the NextGen HQM tool and the MU crystal reports will not work without it.

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- Rosetta interface agent (see the “Measures” section of the Path to Meaningful Use for NextGen Healthcare Clients for details on possible exemptions)
- NextGen® Medical Summary Utility (included with NextGen Ambulatory EHR 5.5 and later)
- NextGen® Health Quality Measures Reporting Module
- NextGen® Patient Portal (powered by NextMD®) (required if electing to demonstrate Menu set Measure 5 and using NextGen® solutions only; other, non-NextGen Healthcare secure email and any other certified PHR may be used)
- Immunization interface or public health interface (see the “Measures” section of the Path to Meaningful Use for NextGen Healthcare Clients documents for details on possible exemptions)

The following NextGen Healthcare products are not required to help demonstrate Meaningful Use stage 1, but can significantly enhance efficiency in doing so:

- a. NextGen™ NextGuard (online data backup)
- b. NextGen™ HIE Connect

### 4. What is the support policy for upgrades?

It is NextGen Healthcare’s policy to support the current general release (GR) of the NextGen KBM and one version back. To provide clients with an easy path to Meaningful Use, however, we have extended support for 7.6.1 and 7.7 beyond this policy.

NextGen Healthcare wants clients to be aware that SP10 for NextGen KBM version 7.6 and SP5 for NextGen KBM version 7.7 will be the final service packs for these releases.

### 5. When will these products be available?

- |                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| a. NextGen Ambulatory EHR version 5.6 | Available Now |
| b. Service Pack 1 for EHR version 5.6 | Available Now |
| c. NextGen KBM 7.6.1 SP 10-MU GR      | Available Now |
| d. NextGen KBM 7.7 SP 5-MU GR         | Available Now |
| e. NextGen KBM 7.8 SP 5-MU GR         | Available Now |
| f. NextGen KBM 7.9 SP 1-MU GR         | Available Now |
| g. NextGen KBM 8.0.1 MUGR             | Available Now |

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### 6. What is the definitive list of race, ethnicity and language with regard to Meaningful Use?

This is the list NextGen Ambulatory EHR displays for ethnicity:

- a. Hispanic or Latino
- b. Not Hispanic or Latino

This is the list NextGen Ambulatory EHR displays for race:

- a. American Indian or Alaska Native
- b. Asian
- c. Black or African American
- d. Other Race
- e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- f. American Indian or Alaska Native
- g. White
- h. Unknown

This is the list NextGen Ambulatory EHR displays for language which clients may add or modify the list:

- a. Arabic
- b. Bulgarian
- c. Central Khmer
- d. Chinese
- e. English
- f. French
- g. German
- h. Haitian; Haitian Creole
- i. Hebrew
- j. Hindi
- k. Italian
- l. Japanese
- m. Korean
- n. Polish
- o. Portuguese
- p. Russian

### 7. Is the interval for Meaningful Use demonstration set by the quarter (e.g., January to March, April to June, or July to September), or can it be any 90-day interval during the year?

The interval can be any 90-day period within the year, as long as the period doesn't start after October 1.

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8. The Meaningful Use Rule identifies 10 Menu Set optional criteria for stage 1 from which eligible professionals (EPs), eligible hospitals (EHs), and critical access hospitals (CAHs) must choose five to demonstrate. Can they choose any five?

You cannot choose any five, because the Meaningful Use final rule notes all EPs and hospitals must choose at least one of the population and public health measures to demonstrate as part of the menu set. This is the only limitation placed on which five objectives can be deferred from the menu set.

This means that EPs must submit data to immunization registries or syndromic surveillance registries. Hospitals must submit data to immunization, syndromic surveillance or reportable lab registries. If such registries do not exist in your state/ city (i.e. there is no repository to receive the data), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will not penalize the EP or hospital.

9. May I continue to submit and collect on Pay-for-Performance programs such as the Physicians Quality Reporting System (PQRS) and electronic prescribing (ePrescribing or eRx) at the same time I am submitting and receiving funding for meeting Meaningful Use criteria?

Yes, but there are limitations. In 2011, if you apply to receive Meaningful Use incentive funds under Medicare you can also apply to receive PQRS funds, but not ePrescribing. In 2011 if you apply to receive Meaningful Use incentive funds under Medicaid you can also apply to receive both PQRS and ePrescribing.

With the implementation of the Patient Affordable Care Act, CMS is shifting physician payments to those that are tied to quality outcomes, like those of Meaningful Use. CMS, for example, has indicated that it plans to integrate PQRS under Meaningful Use, and what has up until now been a voluntary program will result in penalties starting in 2015 for those who do not participate.

CMS has similar plans for those who do not participate in ePrescribing. Starting in 2015, they will begin to levy a penalty of 1% each year until 2017, when it reaches its maximum of 3%. At the same time, CMS will decrease the ePrescribing incentive amount to 1% in 2011 and 2012, and it is finally reduced to .5% in 2013.

10. I am not ready! How soon do I have to start demonstrating Meaningful Use?

Contrary to popular opinion, there is no rush for Medicaid providers. Medicare providers, however, must act quickly. Their funding stream runs out in 2016 and then they face penalties for non-adoption. The first year that Medicaid physicians can be qualified to receive money is 2011.

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### 11. Are there step-by-step instructions to help me?

Yes, please visit [www.nextgen.com/clientMU](http://www.nextgen.com/clientMU) for instructions and resources.

### 12. What is the NextGen® Health Quality Measures (HQM) Module?

The NextGen HQM module is NextGen Healthcare's clinical data mart solution for automated reporting of outcomes and quality measures. When combined with NextGen Ambulatory EHR and NextGen KBM versions 7.6 and higher, the module mines and evaluates clinical data points for both aggregate and patient level outcomes and quality measures. NextGen HQM makes it easy to participate in outcome and quality measurement programs. Each day, as providers see patients and document the encounter in the EHR, discrete clinical quality indicators are seamlessly captured by the NextGen HQM module. These indicators are automatically analyzed and calculated, and then submitted to programs such as Bridges to Excellence (BTE), Physicians Quality Reporting System (PQRS), and even for Meaningful Use. To participate in a program, a practice only needs to select the measures it wants to report.

Practice summary and detail reports are available for performance tracking or patient specific tasks such as generating letters and reminders to clients for mammograms, colorectal screenings and influenza immunizations.

### 13. To which programs does the NextGen HQM module currently report?

NextGen HQM currently reports to the following programs:

- For the Take Care New York and eHearts pay-for-performance program within the five Burroughs for the New York City Department of Health
- In 2010, NextGen Healthcare was an approved CMS registry for PQRS and eRX. For PQRS, NextGen HQM supports the 42 program measures. The 44 Meaningful Use measures are based on NQF measures.
- DOQ-IT 9th Scope was a CMS EHR adoption initiative that has a four measure baseline and runs quarterly through 2011.
- NextGen Healthcare is a registered direct data aggregator for Bridges to Excellence, which is a regional performance-based rewards incentive program.

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### 14. Does NextGen HQM support Patient-Centered Medical Home and Accountable Care Organizations?

Yes. For the NCQA, NextGen Healthcare has approximately 15 or more clients that have achieved level two recognition or above. NextGen Healthcare also currently has eight clients targeting recognition in the Bridges to Excellence Medical Home program. For Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), registries and quality reporting are an important component. Cigna began an ACO pilot in Georgia July 2, 2010 with a NextGen Ambulatory EHR client. The NextGen HQM module is being used to track and report quality measures for hypertension and diabetes for 30+ locations and 200+ physicians.

### 15. What is the cost of the NextGen HQM module?

For clients with a current support contract, there is no additional charge for the NextGen HQM module if you will share your de-identified data, which will be used for a variety of beneficial programs. The data will be de-identified in accordance with HIPAA guidelines so as to maintain privacy and HIPAA compliance. If you elect not to share your data there will be a charge of \$200 per provider with a \$25,000 cap per client to separate the data.

### 16. Can the client install the NextGen HQM services themselves?

No. NextGen Healthcare support personnel need to install NextGen HQM. Clients, however, can go through the auto registration process identifying the available programs and measures they want to report against.

### 17. What versions of NextGen Ambulatory EHR and NextGen KBM are required for NextGen HQM?

Data collected now from the NextGen Ambulatory EHR uses a standard NextGen KBM version. Support for NextGen KBM version 7.6.1, 7.7 and 7.8 is planned, and as new versions of NextGen KBM become available, they will be supported. It is important to keep your NextGen KBM up to date since as new NextGen KBM versions become available and reporting requirements change, support for older NextGen KBM versions will be terminated.

### 18. Will the NextGen HQM module affect NextGen Ambulatory EHR performance?

A report server may be required and should be evaluated when you are assessed and reviewing your hardware requirements for implementing NextGen Ambulatory EHR 5.6-SP1 and the associated NextGen KBM.

You should review the following documents for new hardware specifications as well as the NextGen HQM white paper regarding requirements, available on the MU resources page at [https://client.nextgen.com/cust\\_ng5/mu.asp](https://client.nextgen.com/cust_ng5/mu.asp) :

- a. Workstation Requirements to Run NextGen® Solutions
- b. Interface Server Requirements
- c. Applications and Citrix/Terminal Server Usage.

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Patent pending.

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