

Electronic Health Record and Meaningful Use

- Meaningful Use (MU) is a new initiative to improve the health of our Nation through the effective use of an electronic health record
- Federal guidelines are being created to guide healthcare providers and facilities improve care and safety for their patients.
- It will modernize and extend the health information being used by providers in Indian country

Electronic Health Record and Meaningful Use

- Tribal and Urban Indian clinics can receive financial incentives for the meaningful use of an electronic health record
- Incentives are available over a six year period
 - Three incentive payment periods – each payment period is two years
 - Total program incentive payment over a six year period is \$ 63,750 per provider (MD, NP, DDS)

Electronic Health Record and Meaningful Use

- To receive maximum advantage of the incentives:
 - Health programs need to target meeting the MU guidelines beginning January 1, 2011
 - Years 2012 -2015 will require full time meaningful use of an electronic health record
 - Intended to partially compensate ambulatory care facilities for costs of implementing EHR
 - Failure to meet meaningful use guidelines may result in decreased reimbursement after 2015

WHY IS MEANINGFUL USE IMPORTANT TO YOU?

- Effective use of an electronic health record can improve the health of the members of your communities
- Understand financial opportunities available to your health facility for implementation of an electronic health record

Electronic Health Record and Meaningful Use

- The requirements for achieving Meaningful Use are not final yet and are subject to change.
- Health care facilities should not wait until they are released. Work toward implementing an EHR should begin now