

JULY 2024

# Physician Acknowledgement Monitoring FAQs

## 1. Why do I have to send in this report?

Federal regulations require hospitals (see CFR below) to have new/onboarding physicians sign the Medicare Attestation Statement, written with specific language, prior to the admission of patients or the day of first admission. Acentra Health will monitor this process on an annual basis.

Regulations at 42 CFR 412.46 (one of the conditions at 42 CFR 412, Subpart C) require hospitals that are paid under the prospective payment system (PPS) to obtain only one signed acknowledgement from physicians who are being granted admitting privileges at a particular hospital. The physician must complete the acknowledgement at the time that he or she is granted admitting privileges at the hospital or before or at the time the physician admits his or her first patient to the hospital. When the hospital submits a claim, it must have on file a signed and dated acknowledgement from the attending physician that the physician has received the notice specified in 42 CFR 412.46(b). Existing acknowledgements signed by physicians already on staff remain in effect as long as the physician has admitting privileges at the hospital.

## 2. The letter/email from Acentra Health says this information is due for last year. Is this always retrospective?

Yes, we always do this monitoring task retrospectively, so that we are able to capture a full year's worth of data.

## 3. What if my facility did not hire any new physicians last year?

Please enter "NO NEW PHYSICIANS" on the template form and submit online at [www.acentraqio.com/providers/phystatement](http://www.acentraqio.com/providers/phystatement).

## 4. How often do I have to send this information in?

The information is sent annually, upon Acentra Health's request, in Quarter 1 of each calendar year.

## 5. Who at my facility is responsible for sending this information in?

Generally, this would be a Medical Staff Office/ Credentialing staff responsibility.

**6. What physicians do I need to send in on the report?**

Acentra Health requires a report/list of all medical providers with admitting privileges that your facility on-boarded between January 1 and December 31, of the prior year.

**7. Who does NOT need to be included in the report?**

Radiologists, pathologists, anesthesiologists, emergency room doctors, residents, or any staff that do NOT have admitting privileges may be excluded.

**8. Are you looking for the individual signed acknowledgements?**

Yes, Acentra Health requires individually signed and dated Physician Acknowledgement Statements for each physician for the previous calendar year as listed in your report.

**9. I sent in my report, but I received a deficiency letter. What does this mean?**

The physician(s) in question possibly admitted a patient before he/she signed the Physician Acknowledgement Statement. The deficiency letter gives instructions on how to resolve the deficiency, which most often will involve submitting additional documentation regarding the signed attestations from the physician(s). Please contact Acentra Health at [PhysicianAcknowledgement@acentra.com](mailto:PhysicianAcknowledgement@acentra.com) for more information regarding individual deficiency letters.

**10. The issues noted on my deficiency letter are inaccurate. What do I do?**

Please contact Acentra Health at [PhysicianAcknowledgement@acentra.com](mailto:PhysicianAcknowledgement@acentra.com) to determine how to resolve each specific issue, if possible.

**11. The deficiencies listed on my deficiency letter are for physicians that no longer work at this facility. What do I need to send?**

Acentra Health will still require the appropriate documentation or explanation for each deficiency for the specified reporting period.