

PEPPER FAQ

Program for Evaluating Payment Patterns Electronic Report

What is PEPPER?

PEPPER summarizes Medicare claim data statistics by provider via target areas that may be at risk for improper Medicare payments. The provider's data is benchmarked against the nation, jurisdictions and state.

What do I do with the PEPPER?

PEPPER is an educational tool that helps providers assess risk areas for improper Medicare payments. Providers should plan for process improvement initiatives after data is reviewed.

What are PEPPER target areas? Areas identified as potentially at risk for improper payments may be considered as target areas (e.g., coding or billing errors, unnecessary services). Target areas are subject to updates and are periodically changed according to factors such as reimbursement methodology. Each reporting period PEPPER target areas are identified. Definitions of each target areas are on the report.

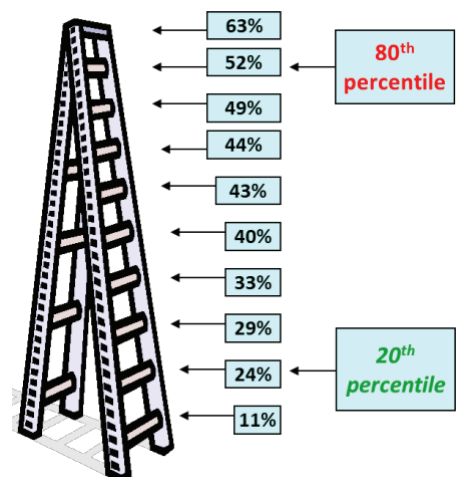
How is the PEPPER made available to providers?

PEPPER is available via an electronic format for approximately two years from its date of release. In order to access information in the secure online portal, a six-digit CMS Certification Number referred to as a Provider Transaction Access Number (PTAN) is required. Providers will also need a validation code that is entered as a patient control number or a medical record number for a traditional Med A patient who received services from 7/1/2020-9/30/2020 or is sent via an email from PECOS.

Portal: <https://pepperfile.cbrpepper.org>

How is the percentile calculated?

The top two SNFs' percents are at or above the 80th percentile.
The bottom two SNFs' percents are at or below the 20th percentile (for areas at risk for under-coding only).



How do I get help? PEPPER Resources: <https://pepper.cbrpepper.org>

Source: Q4FY20 Skilled Nursing Facility PEPPER Review Webinar (cbrpepper.org)