Measurement Frameworks in 30 Minutes

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Objectives

1. Define how NQF “measurement framework” projects drive quality improvement
2. Provide overview of structure and key definitions for framework projects

What is a “Framework” Project at NQF?
What is a “Framework” Project at NQF?

- Non-Endorsement and non-MAP work
- Funded by both public and private sector
- Could be a project to understand a particular idea or topic as it relates to quality measurement or to explore various measurement science issues
  - E.g., Attribution, Variation in Measure Specifications
- Could be a project to build a framework to inform measurement and measure development
  - E.g., Addressing measure gaps, Telehealth

What are some of the key differences between a framework project and other projects you encounter at NQF?

- No measure evaluation
- No measure selection for federal use
- Variation in timeframes and deliverables
- More in-depth lit review or environmental scan
- Informal voting as consensus building tool

- Accelerate development of needed measures
- Reduce, select and endorse measures
- Drive implementation of prioritized measures
- Facilitate feedback on what works and what doesn’t
- Drive measurement that matters to improve quality, safety & affordability

Framework Projects along the Measurement Spectrum

- Measure Conceptualization → Measure Development → Measure Testing → Measure Endorsement → Measure Use
- National Quality Strategy → Measure Stewards → NQF Endorsement Process → Measure Applications Partnership
What are Current and Past “Framework” Projects?

- Prioritizing Measure Gaps:
  - Adult Immunization
  - Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias
  - Care Coordination
  - Health Workforce
  - Person-Centered Care and Outcomes
- Home and Community-Based Services
- Telehealth
- Value Set Harmonization
- Disparities
- Attribution
- Variation

- Interoperability
- Risk Adjustment for SES
- Prioritization and Identification of Health IT Patient Safety Measures
- Population Health Framework
- Rural Health
- Medicaid Accelerator

What are some of the key differences between a framework project and other projects you encounter at NQF?
NQF Framework Development Process

1. Multistakeholder’s Guidance and Input Throughout process
   - Literature review
   - Measure search
   - Key informant interviews

2. Environmental Scan
   - Identify themes, key concepts and considerations, etc.

3. Synthesize Environmental Scan Findings
   - May go through several iterations of this step
   - Prioritization of measures concepts

4. Draft Conceptual Framework
   - Recommendations

5. Committee Review & Update Framework

6. Final Conceptual Framework

What is the structure of a Measurement Framework?
What is a Measurement Framework?

- A **measurement framework** is a conceptual model for organizing ideas about what is important to measure in a topic area.

- Measurement frameworks are made up of:
  - **Domains of measurement**
  - **Subdomains of measurement**
  - **Measure Concepts**

  *Measurement frameworks provide a structure for organizing currently available measures, identifying measure gaps, and prioritizing measures for future development*

Considerations

- What is the desired outcome for the individual?

- Is there an accountable entity that has the ability to influence what should be measured?

- Is there variability among providers and opportunity for improvement?

- What is feasible to measure in the short, medium, and long-term?
Elements of a Measurement Framework

**Domain**: a categorization/grouping of high-level ideas that further describes the measurement framework

**Subdomain**: a smaller categorization/grouping within a domain

**Measure concept**: a description of a potential assessment tool, that includes planned target and population

**Performance Measure**: an assessment tool that specifies a numerator (what/how/when), denominator (who/where/when), and exclusions (not) and may have undergone scientific testing
Personal-Centered Planning and Coordination (domain): an approach to assessment, planning, and coordination of services and supports that is focused on the individual's goals, needs, preferences, and values.

Assessment (subdomain): The level to which the HCBS system and providers support the person in identifying their goals, needs, preferences, and values. This process should gather all of the information needed to inform the person centered planning process. Re-assessments should occur on a regular basis to assure that changes in consumer goals and needs are captured and appropriate adjustments to services and supports are made.

Measure concept: Percent responding yes to: Do you believe that the result of your “level of care assessment” identifies your real needs? (NMPQR: New Mexico CoLTS (1915c) Waiver Participant Quality Review.)

Performance Measure: an assessment tool that specifies a numerator (what/how/when), denominator (who/where/when), and exclusions (not) and may have undergone scientific testing.

Questions?
THANK YOU