

NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO EXPERT PANEL Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs)

NQF is seeking nominations for members of an expert panel for a new project to explore the methodological issues related to endorsement of performance measures based on patient-reported outcomes data.

BACKGROUND

The increasing integration of delivery systems provides an opportunity to manage the entire patient-focused episode of care and to assess the impact of care on patient outcomes, including patient-reported outcomes. Patient reported outcomes (PROs) have been defined as “Any report of the status of a patient’s health condition that comes directly from the patient, without interpretation of the patient’s response by a clinician or anyone else.”^[1] PRO tools enable assessment of patient-reported health status for physical, mental, and social well-being. Many patient-level instruments have been evaluated and catalogued within NIH’s Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS). While PROMIS and other initiatives have validated patient-level outcome measures and instruments, there are two major challenges to using them for purposes of accountability and performance improvement: 1) they are not in widespread use in clinical practice and 2) little is known about aggregating these patient-level outcomes for measuring performance of the healthcare entity delivering care. While there has been great interest in moving toward greater use of patient-reported outcomes, foundational work needs to be undertaken to address methodological and data challenges.

A workshop will be held to: identify and promote understanding of the key methodological issues that need to be addressed in developing and using PRO-based accountability measures and implications for applying NQF endorsement criteria; identify the capacity required for PRO-based accountability measure development and testing; identify the capacity required for potential test beds for measure testing; and identify a critical pathway including timetable with key milestones for submitting measures to NQF for endorsement.

Two commissioned papers will support the workshop and address key methodological issues to help inform next steps regarding 1) selection of PROs for use in performance measures and 2) the path to developing reliable and valid performance measures eligible for NQF endorsement that can be used for accountability and to inform quality improvement. The draft papers will be presented at a workshop for reaction by the expert panel, other experts, and audience.

EXPERT PANEL

The expert panel will oversee the project activities and develop recommendations on evaluating PRO-based performance measures for potential NQF endorsement. The expert panel will work with NQF staff to ensure the commissioned papers and workshop achieve their purpose.

NQF is seeking nominations of individuals with strong methodological experience and expertise in developing and testing 1) patient-reported outcome instruments, and/or 2) performance measures using patient-reported outcomes data. Expertise in methods such as reliability testing, validity testing, and risk adjustment is needed. Potential panel members must be available to attend the workshop scheduled for June 12-13, 2012, in Washington, DC.

NOMINATIONS DUE BY Monday, April 2, 2012 6:00 PM ET

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All potential Expert Panel members must disclose any current and past activities related to measure development during the nomination process. Please see the NQF [conflict of interest policy](#) for additional information.

TIME COMMITMENT

Expert Panel members will attend two in-person meetings and participate on 3-5 conference calls between April and October 2012. In addition, panel members are expected to review and provide feedback on draft documents and reports.

In-person Meetings in Washington, DC

- Workshop – **Tuesday, June 12 and Wednesday, June 13, 2012**
- Expert Panel Meeting – July 2012 (date to be determined)

Conference Calls (dates to be determined)

- April 2012
- May 2012
- August 2012
- September 2012

CONSIDERATION AND SUBSTITUTION

Priority will be given to nominations from NQF Members. Please note that appointments are for an individual, not an organization, so “substitutions” of other individuals from an organization are not permitted.

MATERIAL TO SUBMIT

Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the nominee has been contacted and is willing to serve. To be considered for appointment to the expert panel, please send the following information:

- completed Nomination Form;
- confirmation of availability to attend the scheduled workshop on **June 12 and June 13, 2012**;
- two-page letter of interest;
- short biography (750 characters), highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above;
- curriculum vitae and/or list of relevant experience (e.g., publications) *up to 20 pages*; and
- completed “[Disclosure of Interest](#)” form.

Materials should be submitted only via email to nominations@qualityforum.org with the subject line “PRO Nominations.”

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

All nominations **MUST** be submitted by **6:00pm ET on Monday, April 2, 2012**.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Pace or Gene Cunningham at PRO@qualityforum.org. Thank you for your assistance.

^[i] U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. Guidance for Industry. Patient-Reported Outcome Measures: Use in Medical Product Development to Support Labeling Claims. Federal Register 2009;74(35):65132-133.

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