

NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO STEERING COMMITTEE SURGERY ENDORSEMENT MAINTENANCE 2010

NQF is seeking nominations for members of a Steering Committee for a new project to endorse measures that specifically address surgical procedures and processes for public reporting and quality improvement applicable to all settings of care. In addition, NQF-endorsed[®] surgical consensus standards that were endorsed prior to June 2008 will undergo maintenance review.

BACKGROUND: NQF has endorsed 63 consensus standards for surgical procedures and care of surgical patients over the past 6 years. In 2004, under the National Voluntary Consensus Standards for Cardiac Surgery project, NQF endorsed 21 consensus standards for cardiac surgery, the largest number of surgical measures endorsed in a single project.

As the quality measurement enterprise has matured, better data from clinical registries and electronic health records can support the demand for meaningful performance measures. There also has been a shift to focus on outcomes and composite measures.

STEERING COMMITTEE: A multi-stakeholder Surgical Steering Committee will oversee the development of a draft consensus report that will include recommendations of which measures should be endorsed as consensus standards and, with respect to measures undergoing maintenance, which measures should continue as endorsed consensus standards.

Expertise in general surgery and surgical specialties including but not limited to cardiac, thoracic, orthopedic, neurosurgery, vascular, and other subspecialty surgical areas is needed. Nominees should possess relevant knowledge and/or proficiency in process and outcome quality measurement and/or clinical care of surgical patients and surgical procedures.

Steering Committee members should not have a vested interest in the candidate measures. This includes employees or contractors of measure owners/developers; members of workgroups that developed the measures; and members of committees that approve measures, or direct or set policy for measure development. Please see the NQF website for additional information about the conflict of interest policy. All potential Surgical Steering Committee members must disclose any current and past activities during the nomination process.

As with all NQF projects, the Steering Committee will work with NQF staff to develop specific project plans, provide advice about the subject, ensure input is obtained from relevant stakeholders, review draft products, and recommend specific measures and research priorities to NQF Members for consideration under the Consensus Development Process.

TIME COMMITMENT: The Steering Committee will meet during two in-person meetings in the Washington, DC area:

Introductory conference call: January 12, 2011 3:00-4:30 pm ET

In-person meeting: February 28-March 1, 2011

In-person meeting: May 4-5, 2011

Additionally, Steering Committee members may meet approximately three to four times by conference call for two hours each and be asked to review materials and provide feedback throughout the process. Follow-up conference calls may also be needed.

NOMINATIONS DUE BY THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2010 6:00 PM EST

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CONSIDERATION AND SUBSTITUTION: Priority will be given to nominations from NQF Members. Please note that nominations are to an individual, not an organization, so “substitutions” of other individuals from an organization at conference calls are not permitted.

MATERIAL TO SUBMIT: Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual has been contacted and is willing to serve. To be considered for appointment to the Steering Committee, please send the following information:

- a completed Nomination Form;
- confirmation of availability to participate on the introductory call on January 12, 2011 and the in-person meetings on February 28-March 1, 2011 and May 4-5, 2011;
- a 2-page letter of interest and a 100 word maximum biography, highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above and involvement in candidate measure development;
- curriculum vitae or list of relevant experience (e.g., publications) *up to 20 pages*; and
- completed Disclosure of Interest form.

Materials should be submitted through the project page on the NQF web site.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: All nominations *MUST* be submitted by **6:00 pm ET on Thursday, October 28, 2010.**

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions, please contact, Melinda Murphy, RN, MS, NE-BC, at 202-531-0550 or Alexis Forman, MPH, at 202-783-1300 or via e-mail at surgery@qualityforum.org. Thank you for your assistance!

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