Workgroup Members Present: Nasim Afsar-manesh, MD; James E. Carpenter, MD; Dennis W. Rivenburgh, MS, PA-C; Allan Siperstein, MD; and Arden M. Morris, MD, MPH (Steering Committee chairperson)

NQF Staff Present: Melinda L. Murphy, RN, MS; Alexis Forman, MPH; Jessica Weber, MPH

Others Present: Cheryl Davy (Stanford University); Harriet Gammon, Sharon Sprenger, Ann Watt (TJC)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Ms. Murphy welcomed Workgroup C to the conference call and explained the conference call goals:
- to create a shared understanding of the measures and a comfort level with the presentation of the measures at the Steering Committee meeting,
- to allow each group to review the full set of preliminary ratings and comments related to the measures, and
- to discuss any key issues or themes that emerged during the evaluation.

PROJECT UPDATE
The list of National Quality Forum (NQF) materials sent to the workgroup was reviewed, including the logistics memo, in preparation for the in-person Steering Committee meeting February 28-March 1, 2011. The group was advised that while measure stewards were invited to the call, they were not expected to address questions until the Steering Committee meeting, at which time their experts would be available to respond to the Steering Committee.

EVALUATION OF WORKGROUP C MEASURES
The group reviewed their preliminary ratings of the following assigned measures. They discussed both the ratings and the related comments.

0360: Esophageal resection mortality rate (IQI 8) (risk-adjusted) (maintenance measure)
0361: Esophageal resection volume (IQI 1) (maintenance measure)
1526: Transfusion consent (new candidate measure)
1527: RBC transfusion indication (new candidate measure)
1532: Plasma transfusion indication (new candidate measure)
1539: Platelet transfusion indication (new candidate measure)
1541: Blood administration documentation (new candidate measure)
1542: Preoperative anemia screening (new candidate measure)
1547: Preoperative blood type testing and antibody screening (new candidate measure)

Ms. Murphy provided information about the role of the group members as lead discussants at the Steering Committee meeting. Ms. Forman asked group members to confirm they had received the logistics information for the meeting and to be sure they had complied with the requirements.