Surgery Endorsement Maintenance
November 21, 2011

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The project has:

• evaluated newly submitted measures and provided maintenance of surgical measures endorsed by NQF before June 2008*;

• been done in two phases;
  • Phase I – cardiac surgery-related, esophageal resection, VTE prophylaxis and blood transfusion
  • Phase II – general surgery and surgical specialties

• considered potential for harmonization, replacement or expansion of related measures

*Measures endorsed by NQF after June 2008 will be evaluated in a later project.
Project Status

• Member and public comment period for Phase II closed on October 26
• Comments have been addressed by developers and Steering Committee
• Voting opens today with 18 endorsed measures recommended for continued endorsement and 6 new measures recommended for initial endorsement.
• Draft report and comment table available on the project page
Webinar Goals

The webinar

• Provides opportunity for clarification prior to voting

• Provides information about requirements of developers and Steering Committees:
  – Measure submission requirements
  – Maintenance of endorsed measures
  – Endorsement of new measures
  – Harmonization / Best in Class
Phase II Recommendations

• Continued endorsement of 18 measures
  - Placement of 1 measure in Reserve Status
• Endorsement of 6 new measures
• Measure topics:
  - CABG
  - Prophylaxis
  - Cardiac
  - Appendectomy
  - Vascular
  - General
  - Ophthalmology
  - Orthopedics
  - Pediatrics
Committee Overarching Issues

Committee focus in both Phases I and II

• Clarity of specifications
• Current evidence & relationship to outcomes
• Failure to provide disparities & public reporting
• Impact on quality
• Placement in reserve status
• Related and Competing Measures
• Use of proprietary registries
• 135 comments received from 29 organizations/individuals
• Themes
  – Expanding the level of assessment to include other levels, mainly clinician
  – “Topped out” measures
  – Measures for use in Ambulatory Surgery Centers
  – Encouragement to recommend measures 0364, 0367, 0368, 1531 and 1548
• Steering Committee deliberations
• Developer actions
  - Revised specifications for hip and knee arthroplasty measures
Impact of Comments

• Changes to the measures
  – No changes to the measures were requested by the Committee as a result of comments; however changes to 1550 and 1551 were made by the developer
  – Steering Committee strongly supports concepts underlying two measures not recommended for endorsement, 1531: Follow-up assessment of stroke or death after carotid revascularization and 1548: Surveillance after endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair (EVAR)
  – Measures 0364, 0367, 0368 and 1531 have been moved to the addendum report due to a request for reconsideration by the measure developers
NQF Member Voting

November 21-December 5, 2011
Questions?