Surgery Endorsement Maintenance

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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 has closed
- Comments have been addressed by developers and Steering Committee
- Voting opens today with 18 endorsed measures recommended for continued 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

– Audience Additions?
Phase I Recommendations

- Continued endorsement of 18 measures
  - 16 cardiac/CABG related
  - 2 esophageal resection
- Placement of 1 measure in Reserve Status
Committee Overarching Issues

• Clarity of specifications
• Use of proprietary registries
• “Topped out” measures
• Failure to provide disparities & public reporting
• Impact on quality
• Current evidence & relationship to outcomes
Comments

• 35 comments received from 11 organizations/individuals
  – All comments received were from members

• Themes
  – Risk adjustment that obscures patient risk / care variation
  – Measurement at individual clinician level
  – Standardize placement of specification; i.e. age
  – Opposition of placement of 0113 in Reserve Status
  – Encouragement to continue endorsement of 0124

• Steering Committee deliberations
• Developer actions
Impact of Comments

• Changes to the measures
  – 6 measures changed to include age in denominator
  – 6 measures affected