

Align Your Measures

Using the Community Tool to Align Measurement



NATIONAL
QUALITY FORUM

The National Quality Forum's [Community Tool to Alignment Measurement](#) (Alignment Tool) is designed to help those interested in starting or expanding their measurement and reporting efforts to align with others and key national programs.

The Tool consists of two components:

- The *Measure Spreadsheet* lists the NQF-endorsed[®] measures in use (as of February 2012) by one or more of the 16 communities participating in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's *Aligning Forces for Quality* (AF4Q) initiative. These 171 NQF-endorsed measures are mapped to the National Quality Strategy priorities and national programs that involve reporting requirements or payment incentives.
- The *Measure Use Experience* document details the measurement and public reporting experiences of three AF4Q communities and specific information about many of the measures they use.

Use the Alignment Tool to:

1 Examine the measures you use and find opportunities to align with others.

The Alignment Tool includes an easy-to-use *Your Measures in Use* template, which allows you to add the measures you use and compare them with those in use by others. It also links seamlessly to the [Quality Positioning System](#) (QPS), NQF's online measure search tool that enables users to quickly locate and view details about NQF-endorsed measures, see lists of measures ('portfolios') that are of interest to others, and compare measures or portfolios. Access QPS at www.qualityforum.org/QPS to learn more or create your own portfolio.

Explore the measures in use in each Aligning Forces for Quality alliance

[Albuquerque, NM](#)

[Cincinnati, OH](#)

[Cleveland, OH](#)

[Detroit, MI](#)

[Greater Boston](#)

[Humboldt County, CA](#)

[Kansas City, MO](#)

[Maine](#)

[Memphis, TN](#)

[Minnesota](#)

[Oregon](#)

[Puget Sound, WA](#)

[South Central PA](#)

[West Michigan](#)

[Western New York](#)

[Wisconsin](#)

2 Learn about the experiences of others using particular measures.

The Alignment Tool offers practical information gathered from the Cincinnati, Detroit, and Maine AF4Q alliances about their experiences using particular measures, including their measure selection process, how they share and use measure results, and the impact observed thus far.



We get a lot of mileage in beginning to report future measures early. It gives providers a chance to work on things so they do well when it begins to count.



- Ted Rooney, Maine



We appreciate understanding the context of public reporting across the country and where we fit in; this will provide our team with some insight as we select measures and look to the future direction of our public reporting efforts.

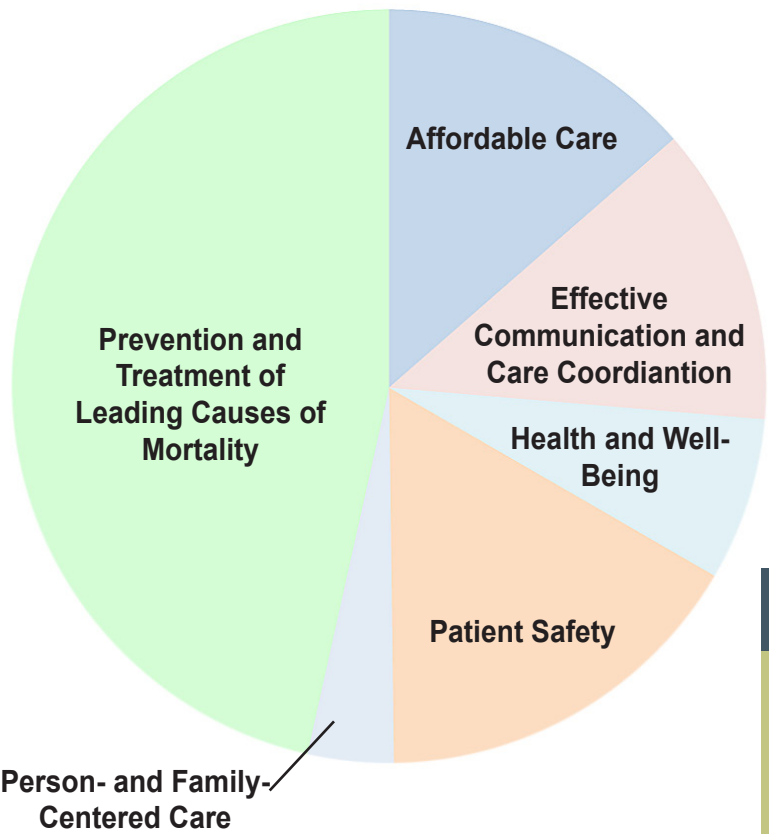


- *Lisa Mason, Detroit, MI*

3 Align with public- and private-sector payment incentives.

The Alignment Tool allows you to see where measures in use align with National Quality Strategy priorities and key national programs and initiatives (e.g., Meaningful Use, Physician Quality Reporting System, Hospital Value-Based Purchasing, Medicaid Adult Core) and learn from others who are already using NQF-endorsed measures in these areas.

NQF-endorsed Measures in Use by AF4Q Alliances, Grouped by the National Quality Strategy Priorities



Note: NQF-endorsed measures in use by the AF4Q Alliances are tagged to National Quality Strategy (NQS) priorities from both the community and NQF perspectives. Measures may be tagged to multiple NQS priorities.

HELP US LEARN FROM YOU

Explore the Alignment Tool at www.qualityforum.org/AlignmentTool.

Create your own portfolio of measures in the [Quality Positioning System \(QPS\)](#) and use QPS to submit feedback on specific measures. Tell NQF more about your community or region's measurement and reporting efforts by sending your story to communities@qualityforum.org.