

THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

CALL FOR STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

NATIONAL VOLUNTARY CONSENSUS STANDARDS FOR HOSPITAL PERFORMANCE: ADDITIONAL PRIORITY AREAS

At the request of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the National Quality Forum (NQF) is pleased to announce initiation of a project to seek additional voluntary consensus standards for acute care hospitals in the following two priority areas, which were identified by CMS through its series of "listening sessions" earlier this year: measures for coordination of care and rural-sensitive measures (i.e., sensitive to the types of care commonly provided by rural hospitals). Additionally, CMS may request that NQF seek consensus on measures in a third area, which will be announced if one is pursued.

With this notice we are seeking nominations for Steering Committee members, which must be submitted no later than 12 noon Eastern Standard Time on Monday, December 6, 2003. (In the near future, we also will issue a "Call for Measures" in coordination of care and rural-sensitive care.) As with other NQF projects, the Steering Committee will prioritize the areas for potential measure endorsement within the three priority areas and recommend a set of measures in each of the areas based on the analyses provided by a Technical Panel for each area, as well as make recommendations about areas for further measurement development and research.

Composition of the Steering Committee: The Steering Committee (15-16 individuals) will include the full range of stakeholder perspectives. It will be comprised of consumers, purchasers, quality improvement organizations, researchers, and healthcare system professionals possessing relevant knowledge and/or experience in coordination of care and rural hospital care. Please note that nominations are of an individual, not an organization, so "substitutions" for meetings are not permitted. Additionally, all nominations also will be considered for appointments to the two Technical Advisory Panels (one in each area) unless the nomination expressly indicates it is only for the Steering Committee or only for a Technical Advisory Panel. *Priority will be given to NQF Members.*

Time Commitment: One 1-day meeting and one 2-day meeting will be held in Washington, DC (with ~2-4 conference calls). The project is anticipated to be completed by September 30, 2005, with in-person meetings completed by June 2005. Please note that nominations are to an individual, not an organization, so "substitutions" of other individuals from an organizations at meetings are not permitted.

Information to be Submitted: Nominations must be limited to a 2-page letter and a curriculum vitae (CV) and/or list of relevant experience up to 20 additional pages, which should address the knowledge possessed relative to the desired expertise/experience in care coordination and rural hospital care; self-nominations are acceptable. **Complete contact information (address, phone, fax, and e-mail) must be provided for the nominated individual.** If the nomination is of a third-party, the letter must affirm that the individual is aware of the nomination and is willing to serve, if appointed. Information should be directed by fax to 202.783.3434 or by U.S. mail/overnight/hand delivery to NQF at: 601 Thirteenth St., NW, Suite 500 North, Washington, DC 20005 *Please do not rely on e-mail to submit nominations.* Again, to be considered, the information must be submitted by 12 noon EST, December 6, 2004.

Questions: If you have questions, please contact Reva Winkler, MD, MPH, at 202.783.1300. Thank you for your assistance!