

# THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

## 'HOSPITAL CAHPS® (HCAHPS)' PROJECT CALL FOR REVIEW COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

As noted on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality web site, the federal government's HCAHPS initiative "focuses on measuring and reporting patients' experiences with their inpatient care. It is designed to help consumers make more informed choices among hospitals and create incentives for hospitals to improve performance." The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) expects it will deliver the final HCAHPS instrument to the National Quality Forum (NQF) by November 8, 2004. In anticipation of this, NQF is pleased to announce initiation of its HCAHPS project, which has been approved by the Board of Directors for consideration under the expedited process.

The NQF project, which is funded by CMS, will undertake consideration of HCAHPS as a national voluntary consensus standard, pursuant to the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act and OMB Circular A-119. Under the expedited process, no "Call for Measures" will be undertaken,\* but a Review Committee will be appointed and will meet at an in-person meeting, currently scheduled for December 1, 2004, in Washington, DC.

**With this notice we seek nominations for members of the HCAHPS Review Committee.\*** Although the NQF Consensus Development Process permits a 14-day submission period for Review Committees, the nomination period for this Committee will be three weeks. **All nominations must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon Eastern Standard Time on Tuesday, November 9, 2004.**

Composition of the Review Committee: The Review Committee (16-18 individuals) will represent 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 expertise in patient experience measurement, reporting, and use of patient experience information. *Priority will be given to NQF Members.*

Time Commitment: One 1-day meeting will be held in Washington, DC and conference calls as needed (~1-2) will be held during the project period, which is expected to be completed by April 30, 2004. **Please note that nominations must commit the individual to attend the 1-day Committee meeting in Washington, DC, on December 1, 2004. If an individual is not able to attend the meeting once the appointment is made, a substitution from the same organization will be permitted only in very extraordinary circumstances. Instead, depending on the timing, a new appointment will be made from the existing nominations or the slot will remain vacant.**

Questions: If you have questions, please contact Bakeyah Nelson, MPH, at 202.783.1300. 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 and should address the knowledge possessed relative to the desired expertise (as noted above). They 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; self-nominations are acceptable. *Please do not rely on e-mail to submit nominations.* Again, to be considered, the information must be submitted by 12 noon EST, November 9, 2004. Thank you for your assistance!

\*The standard 30-day review and 30-day voting periods will be retained. The designation "Review Committee," denotes the expedited process is being used.