



NATIONAL  
QUALITY FORUM

# Measurement Science Update

Helen Burstin, MD, MPH  
Chief Scientific Officer

NQF Board of Directors

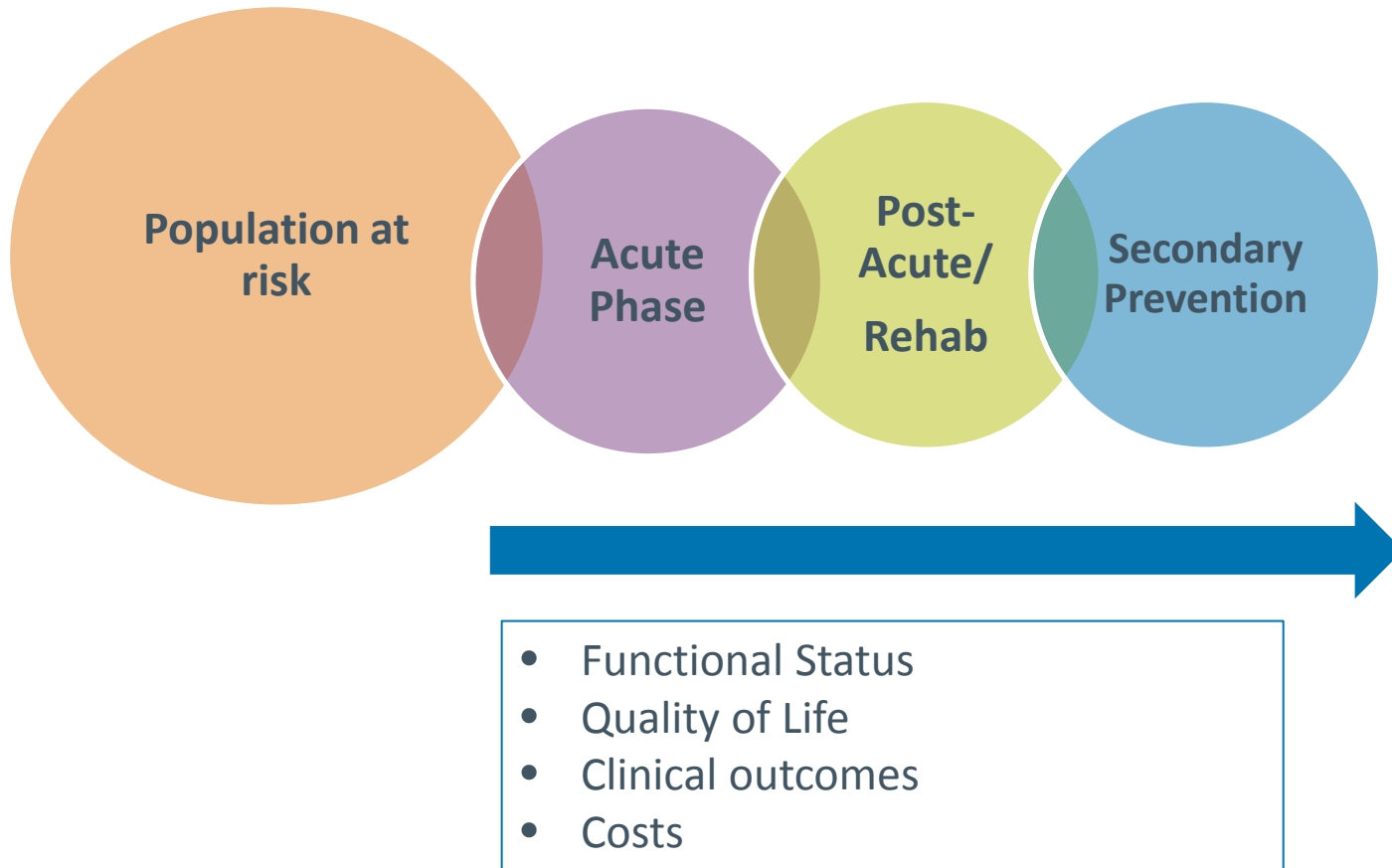
*November 4, 2015*

# NQF's Role in Measurement Science

- Advancing measurement science is essential to get to measures that matter.
  - Foundational work to drive toward new areas of measurement (e.g., transition PROs to PRO-PMs, costs)
  - Advance growing array of cross-cutting issues that limit the use of advanced measures
    - » SES/risk adjustment
    - » Linking cost and quality
    - » Intended use of measures
    - » Attribution \*
    - » Variation \*
    - » Disparities \*

\* New

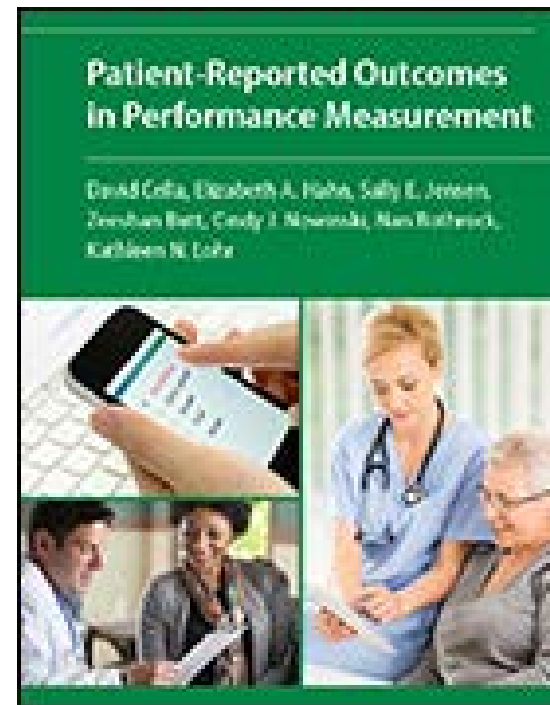
# Patient Focused Episodes



# Patient-Reported Outcome Measures

The concept of any report of the status of a patient's health condition that **comes directly from the patient, without interpretation** of the patient's response by a clinician or anyone else.

- Supported 2 commissioned papers
- New monograph from RTI Press
- Develop pathway PROs to PRO-PMs



# Linking cost and quality



NATIONAL  
QUALITY FORUM

## Efficiency and Value in Healthcare: Linking Cost and Quality Measures

A PAPER COMMISSIONED BY THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

Andrew M. Ryan, Ph.D.

Christopher P. Tompkins, Ph.D.

November 14, 2014

*This report is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation under grant #71278.*

# Update on SES Trial Period

- Working with standing committees and measure developers to consider when SES adjustment is appropriate and necessary
- Considering 19 readmission and cost measures endorsed with condition to enter SES trial
  - Early learnings from Admission/Readmission Committee --
    - » Concerns that proposed variables may not meaningfully demonstrate impact.
    - » Recognized current limits to the availability and accessibility of data around SES factors.
- Full transparency and evaluation of trial period

\* New

# Update on Disparities Committee

- Draft slate for Disparities Standing Committee
- Orientation call on December 3, 2015
- Charge:
  - Provide guidance across all of NQF's work
  - Develop a roadmap for how measurement can be used to proactively reduce disparities
  - Review implementation of the revised NQF policy and evaluate the SES trial period

\* New

# Update on Intended Use

- Working with Advisory Panel on intended use
- Panel charge:
  - What are the primary uses of NQF-endorsed performance measures and how clear are the differences?
  - What do these different primary uses require in terms of evaluation and endorsement by NQF?
- Panel timeline:
  - Advisory panel work started June 2015
  - Public comment on draft report recently closed
  - Recommendations to CSAC on November 18-19

\* New



# New Attribution Project

- ***Open call for nominations for committee***
- The identification of accountable entities is used to determine how payment is distributed and, ultimately, who is responsible for improving care delivery, patient outcomes and reducing cost
- Commissioned paper will focus on different approaches to assign patients and their quality outcomes to organizations and providers
- Environmental scan of approaches to attribution; assess strengths and weaknesses
- Develop guiding principles for attribution
- Recommendations to guide the selection and implementation of various models of attribution

\* New

# New Variation Project

- ***Open call for nominations for committee***
- The use of modified versions of the same measure can lead to confusion for end-users, burdensome data collection, and difficulties when trying to compare performance
- Project will focus on variation in measure specifications;
  - Identify how, where, and why variation is occurring across current measures
- Create a framework for understanding and interpreting the different types of variation across measures
- Develop a common understanding around key terms, concepts, and measure components to help standardize measurement efforts

\* New

# Discussion

Helen Burstin, MD, MPH, FACP  
[hburstin@qualityforum.org](mailto:hburstin@qualityforum.org)