



## Meeting of the Board of Directors

### OPEN SESSION

April 3, 2017

The National Quality Forum (NQF) Board of Directors met on April 3, 2017, in-person at NQF's offices.

### Participants

**Board Members Attending:** Bruce Siegel (Chair); Shantanu Agrawal (President & CEO); Lawrence Becker (Treasurer); James Chase (Vice Chair); Peter Briss (CDC Designee); Carol Cronin; Leonardo Cuello; Helen Darling; Elizabeth Fowler; Kate Goodrich (CMS Designee); William Kramer; Carolyn Pare; Deborah Parham Hopson (HRSA Designee); Jonathan Perlin; Laurel Pickering; Louise Probst; Jack Resneck; Lewis Sandy; David Shahian; Kirsten Sloan; Cristie Upshaw Travis; Nancy Wilson (AHRQ Designee & via teleconference)

**NQF Staff:** Helen Burstin; Apryl Clark; Neal Comstock; Kathleen Giblin; Patricia Green; Ann Hammersmith (General Counsel and Corporation Secretary); Jason Johnson; Elisa Munthali; Nicole Silverman; Cherish Simpson; Marcia Wilson

### OPEN SESSION

The Board convened in open session at 12:05 p.m., ET.

### Approval of Open Session Minutes

**ACTION:** The Board approved the open session minutes from the November 2, 2016, Board of Directors meeting.

### SES Update

President and CEO, Shantanu Agrawal, gave opening remarks before the discussion began. Dr. Agrawal stated that the SES Update would be discussed in the open session to increase transparency on this topic.

Helen Burstin, Chief Scientific Officer, delivered her report on the SES Update. The two-year trial period is ending on April 15, 2017. Dr. Burstin recapped the history of the SES trial. The Risk Adjustment Expert Panel previously made recommendations to complete a two-year trial period where NQF would allow measures with SES and other demographic factors to be submitted for consideration for endorsement. Each NQF standing committee reviewed measures as they came forward with a focus primarily on outcomes. The trial included many measures endorsed with the condition that they go through the trial period, including readmission and cost and resource use measures. At the end of the trial period, there is an opportunity for an evaluation and staff is already engaged in collecting data.

The Disparities Standing Committee is helping with the evaluation of the trial period. The Committee met and reviewed draft evaluation questions. In addition to assisting in reviewing the implementation of the trial period and evaluation, they are also helping to develop a roadmap and effectively helping eliminate disparities, with measurement as one potential lever.

An analysis that includes a set of both quantitative and qualitative information will be presented to the Disparities Committee in June when it is completed. At the June meeting, all data from the evaluation will be discussed.

At the July 20 Board Meeting, NQF leadership will share the potential direction beyond the trial period.

During public comment, Mike Brey, Medicare Spending per Beneficiary (MSPB) Lead, CMS, questioned the extension of the trial. He inquired about the effect on measures that have already gone through the trial if an extension is given. Dr. Burstin stated that measures would continue to go through the trial as they are currently. In July, the Board will make the decision to extend the trial or not. Before the decision to extend the trial is made, the results of the trial must be reviewed.

#### **Disclosures of Interest by NQF'S Board of Directors**

Board members participated in an oral disclosure of interest. If any additional disclosures were added, the forms will be sent back to Cherish Simpson, Governance Manager.

No public comments were received.

The Board ended the open session at 12:56 p.m., ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Hammersmith