



# NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

Driving measurable health  
improvements together

## Measure Selection Tool User Guide

### Overview

Over the past decade, the National Quality Forum (NQF) has endorsed over 600 healthcare performance measures addressing many important areas of health and healthcare. Measures that are useful for one purpose and area of healthcare may not be as useful for other purposes. With limited time and resources to help review the different measures and their uses, it can be difficult to identify appropriate measures for use.

As a first step in helping organizations in their efforts to identify appropriate, high priority measures, NQF has identified and applied 7 measure selection attributes to the portfolio of endorsed measures. These attributes are now available for use in the Quality Positioning System (QPS) as additional filters on the left-hand side of the screen.

The screenshot displays the Measure Selection Tool interface. On the left, there are two filter panels. The top panel, 'Narrow Your Search', includes 'Measure Type' with radio buttons for Process, Composite, Cost/Resource Use, Efficiency, Outcome, Outcome: PRO-PM, Process, Structure, and Outcome: Intermediate. The bottom panel, 'Measure Selection Attributes (Learn more):', contains seven checkboxes: Outcome-Focused, Highest Opportunity for Improvement, Patient and Caregiver-Focused, Coordinated and Integrated Care, Lowest Data Collection Burden, Highly Prevalent Conditions, and Prevention and Population Health. The main area shows a table of measures with columns for NQF# and Title. A green arrow points from the 'Measure Selection Attributes' panel to a callout box on the right.

**Measure Selection Attributes (Learn more):**

- ☐ Outcome-Focused
- ☐ Highest Opportunity for Improvement
- ☐ Patient and Caregiver-Focused
- ☐ Coordinated and Integrated Care
- ☐ Lowest Data Collection Burden
- ☐ Highly Prevalent Conditions
- ☐ Prevention and Population Health

## What do the Measure Selection Attributes Mean?

Each attribute aims to answer a specific question to which a user may be seeking a response:

Attribute	Question	Attribute Assignment Guidance
Outcome-focused	Does the measure reflect a change in clinical status?	Based on Measure Type
Highest Opportunity for Improvement	Does the measure have a significant variation in performance?	Based on Standing Committee vote for Opportunity for Improvement
Patient- and caregiver-focused	Is the measure result meaningful to patients and their caregivers?	Measure addresses HRQoL, Symptoms, Experience with Care, Healthy Behaviors, Harm, Financial Stress, Satisfaction, Care Coordination/Continuity of Care, Wait Times, Patient and caregiver autonomy/empowerment
Coordinated and Integrated Care	Does the measure reflect a collaborative and coordinated health system?	Measure addresses admissions, care coordination/continuity of care, efficiency, palliative care
Prevention and Population	Does the measure address preventive care and care across broad populations?	Measure addresses prevention and population health, social determinants
Highly Prevalent Conditions	Does the measure address one or more pervasive and harmful conditions?	Based on top causes of morbidity and mortality for adults and children
Lowest Data Collection Burden	Does the measure have minimum impact on clinical workflow and limited upfront investment?	Based on data source

## How do I use the Measure Selection Attributes in QPS?

The Measure Selection Attributes are multi-select filters that have been applied to NQF's body of currently endorsed measures. They are designed to work in tandem with the filters previously available in QPS.

As additional filters are applied, the world of NQF endorsed measures will be narrowed to include only measures that meet each of the filtering criteria applied.

For example, if a user would like to find the measures with the highest opportunity for improvement, within the inpatient or hospital care setting that deal specifically with falls and traumatic injury, a user

would apply the filters as follows:

- Measure Selection Attribute: “Highest Opportunity for Improvement”
- Care Setting: “Inpatient/Hospital
- Clinical Condition/Topic Area: “Musculoskeletal > Falls and Traumatic Injury”

Applying each filter would narrow the world of NQF measures to only those measures which are currently endorsed and meet each criteria selected.

## Questions and Comments

We want your feedback! The Measure Selection Tool is a first step in helping users like you find the types of measures that are useful to your work. Your feedback helps us to better understand what would be most helpful to you, and to drive improvements to this tool and future updates in QPS.

If you have any comments or questions about how the Measure Selection Tool and QPS can work for your organization, please email [qps@qualityforum.org](mailto:qps@qualityforum.org), or click “Contact NQF” in the QPS help section.