

Housekeeping Reminders

- This is web meeting uses a platform with audio and video capabilities
- Please place yourself on mute when you are not speaking
- We encourage you to use the following features:
 - Chat box: to message NQF staff or the group
 - Raise hand: to be called upon to speak



**NATIONAL
QUALITY FORUM**

Driving measurable health
improvements together

<https://www.qualityforum.org>

Appeals Board Meeting

April 29, 2022

Funded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services under contract HHSM-500-2017-00060I Task Order HHSM-500-T0001

Welcome

Agenda

- Roll Call and Disclosures of Interest
- Overview of Appeals Board Meeting Process and the Measure Under Appeal Review
- Appellant and Developer Opening Statements
- Initial Appeals Board Discussion and Vote
- *Vote Dependent:* Continued Appeals Board Discussion of Merits of Appeal
- NQF Member and Public Comment
- Appeals Board Final Discussions and Vote
- Next Steps
- Adjourn

Roll Call and Disclosure of Interest (DOI)

Appeals Board Members

- Lawrence Becker (co-chair)
- Laurel Pickering, MPH (co-chair)
- Ashrith Amarnath, MD, MS-SHCD
- William Golden, MD, MACP
- David Shahian, MD

Appeals Board Alternates

- Thomas Kottke, MD, MSPH
- Kristine Martin-Anderson, MPH

Meeting Objective(s)

- The purpose of this meeting is for the Appeals Board to review and discuss the submitted appeal and to hear from the Appellant, the Developer/Steward, and members of the public in order to adjudicate the appeal received for measure *NQF #0500 - Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: Management Bundle*.

Overview of Appeals Board Meeting Process and the Measure Under Appeal Review

Appeals Board Decision Options

- The Appeals Board may render the following decisions:
 - Dismiss the appeal because it does not meet the grounds for appeal
 - Uphold the CSAC endorsement decision
 - Overturn the CSAC endorsement decision
- All votes require a simple majority vote to pass (i.e., 51 percent)
 - There is no consensus not reached threshold
 - There are no tie votes
- All decisions made by the Appeals Board are final
- The Appeals Board's actions and decisions regarding an appeal are publicly available within the technical reports on the respective project page(s) on the NQF website

Meeting Procedure

- NQF staff opens the meeting, conducts disclosures of interest, and provides an overview of the measure and the appeal
- The appellant gives an opening statement, followed by a response from the developer
 - Each party may have up to three (3) representatives speak on their behalf
 - Each party has up to seven (7) minutes for their opening statement
- Following opening statements, the Appeals Board has an opportunity to ask qualifying questions to the measure developer, appellant, or NQF staff

Meeting Procedure (cont'd)

- Following opening statements and clarifying questions, the Appeals Board moves to vote on whether the issue(s) presented in the appeal meet one or both of NQF's eligibility criteria. The Appeals Board will vote on each criterion separately.
 - *Procedural errors reasonably likely to affect the outcome of the original endorsement decision, such as a failure to follow NQF's CDP; or*
 - *New information or evidence, unavailable at the time the CSAC made its endorsement decision, that is reasonably likely to affect the outcome of the original endorsement decision*
- The outcome of the vote determines the next steps:
 - *If both votes are no, the measure stays endorsed, there is no public comment, and the meeting concludes*
 - *If either vote is yes, the meeting moves forward with immediate further consideration and discussion of the appeal regarding the CSAC endorsement decision*

Meeting Procedure (cont'd 2)

- The Appeals Board proceeds with the discussion of the merits of the appeal
 - Questions may be asked of the appellant, measure developer/steward, CSAC Chairs, and NQF staff
- Prior to the final vote, the Appeals Board opens the meeting for public and member comment
 - Each speaker is allowed up to two (2) minutes for their statement
 - The Appeals Board, the appellant, measure developer/steward, or CSAC chair and vice chair **do not** respond to each individual public commenter
- The Appeals Board moves to final discussions and a vote after public comment
 - ***Vote:*** *Based on review and discussion of the appeal, do you agree to uphold the CSAC endorsement decision? **Yes/No***
 - A **yes** vote upholds the CSAC endorsement decision
 - A **no** vote overturns the endorsement decision, and the measure is no longer endorsed

Voting Test

NQF #0500 - Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: Management Bundle

- **Measure Steward:** Henry Ford Hospital
 - Maintenance measure
- **Brief Description of Measure:**
 - This measure focuses on adults 18 years and older with a diagnosis of severe sepsis or septic shock.
 - The measure assesses measurement of lactate, obtaining blood cultures, administering broad spectrum antibiotics, fluid resuscitation, vasopressor administration, reassessment of volume status and tissue perfusion, and repeat lactate measurement.
 - As reflected in the data elements and their definitions, the first three interventions should occur within three hours of presentation of severe sepsis, while the remaining interventions are expected to occur within six hours of presentation of septic shock.

NQF #0500 - Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: Management Bundle(continued)

- Originally endorsed in 2008
- Maintenance endorsement in 2013
 - Appeal received in 2013, and CSAC decision was upheld
- Ad-hoc review of NQF #0500 in 2015 by Patient Safety Standing Committee
 - Endorsement upheld with revised measure
- Maintenance endorsement upheld in 2017 by the Infectious Disease Standing Committee and CSAC
- Maintenance endorsement upheld in 2021 by Patient Safety Standing Committee and CSAC
 - Appeal received in 2022

Appellant Statement (7 minutes)

Developer Response (7 minutes)

Initial Appeals Board Discussion and Vote

Vote Dependent:
**Continued Appeals Board Discussion of
the Merits of Appeal**

Public Comment Period

Each speaker is limited to 2 minutes

Appeals Board Final Discussions

Appeals Board Final Vote

Next Steps

Next Steps and Resources

- The Patient Safety Spring 2021 report will be updated and posted to the [Patient Safety project page](#)
- A meeting summary from the Appeals Board meeting will be posted to the [NQF Appeals Board Page](#)
- Please contact the NQF Appeals Team with any questions appeals@qualityforum.org

THANK YOU.

NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

<https://www.qualityforum.org>