



NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

Driving measurable health
improvements together

Solicitation of Measures

NQF is seeking new performance measures and concepts related to fourteen topical areas that can be used for accountability and public reporting for all populations and in all settings of care.

NQF is particularly interested in:

- Measures of intermediate clinical outcomes or longer term health outcomes, including complications;
- composite performance measures;
- measures applicable to more than one setting;
- measures that capture broad populations;
- measures that are harmonized with similar measures; and,
- measures that are sensitive to vulnerable populations, including racial/ethnic minorities, and Medicaid populations.

Measure Submission Requirements

To submit a measure, please complete the following:

- [Measure Submission Form](#)
- [Measure Steward Agreement](#) Please note that materials will not be accepted without submission of a fully executed *Measure Steward Agreement Form*. All materials not meeting this requirement will be returned to the sender.

Conditions for Consideration:

- The measure owner/steward verifies there is an identified responsible entity and process to maintain and update the measure on a schedule that is commensurate with the rate of clinical innovation, but at least every three years.
- The intended use of the measure includes both public accountability and quality improvement.
- The measure is fully specified and [tested for reliability and validity](#). Measures that are not tested will not be accepted.
- The measure developer/steward attests that [harmonization](#) with related measures and issues with competing measures have been considered and addressed, as appropriate.
- The requested measure submission information is complete and responsive to the questions so that all the information needed to evaluate all criteria is provided.

Submission Guidance:

- [Developer Guidebook](#):
 - A Developer Guidebook as has been created to assist developers in the measure submission and evaluation process. The Guidebook contains all the information developers need to know when submitting a measure to NQF.
- ICD-10-CM/PCS:
 - As of October 1, 2015, measures specified with administrative claims data must

submit a set of ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM/PCS codes. Click [here](#) for further information on this requirement.

- eCQMs:
 - Must be specified in the Heath Quality Measures Format (HQMF) and use the Quality Data Model (QDM) and value sets vetted through the National Library of Medicine's Value Set Authority Center (VSAC);
 - Review the [current measure evaluation criteria and guidance](#)
- Composite measures:
 - Please notify topical area staff if you plan to submit a composite measure

Technical Assistance

NQF staff will provide technical assistance to measure developers at any time during the measure submission process up to the measure submission deadline. Contact the topical area team with any questions about the criteria, how to answer the questions in the measure submission form, and any technical issues with the online submission process.

For more details on measure submission and evaluation, please see the [Submitting Standards Web Page](#).