

# Measure Developer Webinar

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# Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Overview
- Project Update: Focus on Phase 1
  - *Behavioral Health Update*
- Submission Instructions/Submission Forms
- NQF Evaluation Criteria
- Q&A / Additional Resources
- Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

# Behavioral Health: Project Overview

## Two Phases:

- **Phase 1:** November 2011 – October 2012
  - New individual & composite measures
  - Across all care delivery settings, including primary & specialty care
- **Phase 2:** September 2012- July 2013
  - New measures addressing additional gaps identified in Phase 1
  - ~29 NQF endorsed measures due for maintenance will be reviewed

# Project Scope

## **NQF is seeking measures in the following areas:**

- Screening, Assessment, Follow-up
- Risk appraisal & assessment
- Documentation of Follow-up
- Prevention
- Care Integration
- Youth/adults with substance abuse disorders
- Youth/adults with serious emotional disturbances
- Effective Care
- Alcohol & Tobacco

# Project Timeline: Phase I

Activity	Timeline
Call for Nominations	November 14- December 13, 2011
Call for Measures	November 14, 2011 – February 14, 2012
In-person meeting - evaluation & recommendation by entire SC	April 17-18, 2012
Draft report for review and comment	June 8- July 9, 2012
SC responds to comments	July 26, 2012
Pre-voting webinar	August 13, 2012
Draft report for NQF member vote	August 10-24, 2012
CSAC review and approval	September 10, 2012
Endorsement by the Board	October 1-8, 2012

# Questions?

# Focus of Today's Discussion

- Describe submission process for new measures
- Briefly explain the measure maintenance and competing measures process
- Answer any questions developers may have regarding the NQF process

# New Measure Submissions

- The measure submission form is accessed through the project page
  - **NOTE:** NQF login will be required
- A form must be created for EACH individual measure
- Once a form has been started for a measure, it will be saved as an “in progress submission” and can be accessed and updated through “My Dashboard”.
- If the submitted measure is not in the public domain, a Measure Steward Agreement must be completed and submitted.



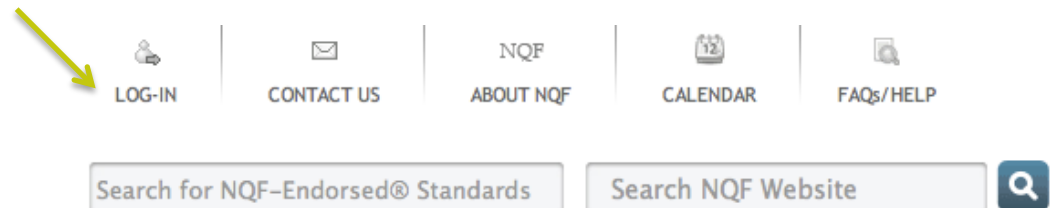
# Creating an NQF Account

***NOTE: If your organization is a member of NQF, this new account will replace the member ID and password that your organization has used in the past to access member's only content on the NQF site.***

- 1) Go to the NQF homepage. At the top of the [NQF homepage](#) you'll see the feature to log into the NQF website. Clicking "Log in" will take you to the account log in screen to create an account.



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# Creating an NQF Account

- 2) Enter your contact information
- 3) Click the “Next” button
- 4) Enter your account information
- 5) Click the “Next” button
- 6) Check your email, you will be contacted by [imis@qualityforum.org](mailto:imis@qualityforum.org) which will contain an active link
- 7) Click on the link in the email to activate your account
- 8) Enter the username and password
- 9) Click submit
- 10) Enter the username and password, then click “Sign in”.
- 11) Once you have logged in, you will be redirected to the NQF homepage, you can access your Dashboard from the NQF tools area located on the right hand side of the NQF homepage.

NQF Login

Please login to access this resource

Username:

Password:

Remember Me

[Reset Password?](#)

[Cancel](#)

[Don't have an account?](#)

[Enroll Now](#)  
[Why enroll?](#)

# Accessing the Submission Form

- 1) Click on the “Consensus Development Projects” in the Measuring Performance tab on the NQF homepage to locate the project page.
- 2) Once on the project page, find the step named “Call for Candidate Standards” and click on the (+) next to the step.
- 3) Click on “Submit Measure” to open the link to the online submission form.

Measuring Performance | Topics | News & Resources | Events | Membership

+ / - Text Size | Print | Email | Share

## Behavioral Health Phase 1 and 2

Follow | Project View: Overview | Details

Project Status: Current

### Behavioral Health Endorsement Maintenance Phase 1 and 2

This two-fold project is aimed at establishing national priorities for improving the delivery of behavioral health services, achieving better behavioral health outcomes, and improving the behavioral health of the U.S. population, especially those with mental illness and substance abuse.

[+] Expand All [-] Collapse All

- + CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
NOV 14, 2011 - DEC 13, 2011
- CALL FOR CANDIDATE STANDARDS  
NOV 14, 2011 - DEC 03, 2012

The Call for Candidate Standards will be handled in two phases. The first phase is open through February 14, 2012.

This project includes maintenance review of 45 consensus standards in Phase 2. As a part of the maintenance review process, NQF will be seeking comments on the implementation and use of these measures, particularly all stakeholders' experiences with the measures.

#### PHASE 1 CALL FOR MEASURES

NOV 14, 2011 09:00 AM - FEB 14, 2012 06:00 PM

NQF will be seeking measures in the areas surrounding behavioral health. The Call for Measures is open through February 14 at 6:00pm ET. Materials must be submitted using the online measure submission form.

- Call for Measures (PDF)
- Measure Steward Agreement (PDF)
- Table of Endorsed Measures for Maintenance (PDF)

[Submit Measure](#)

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# New Measure Submissions

4) Click on “Begin Submission”.

**NOTE:**

- If the draft pop-up doesn't appear after you click “Save Draft”, then you have NOT saved your draft successfully.
- Save Draft is NOT an automatic feature, to save your work you must click “Save Draft”.
- If you've saved a draft of your submission, but haven't yet submitted it by the project's deadline, your measure will not be accepted for NQF consideration.
- The deadline for submission is listed at the top of the form.
- If the form is left unattended for a long period of time, it will time out and you will need to log out, the last saved version of the form will appear.

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Call for Measure Submissions Measure Submission Form Help Begin Submission

### NQF Measure Submission Form, Version 5.0

Project Name : Behavioral Health  
Measure Title : Untitled Submission  
Measure Process : New Measure

**Introduction**

Thank you for your interest in submitting a measure to NQF for possible endorsement.

**NQF Conditions**

What criteria are used to evaluate measures? Measures are evaluated on four standardized criteria: importance to measure and report, scientific acceptability of measure properties, usability, and feasibility. For your measure to be evaluated against these measure evaluation criteria, you must complete the measure submission form.

**Specifications**

**Importance**

Why do I have to complete a form? Due to the volume and/or complexity of proposed measures, NQF provides measure information to committee reviewers in a standardized format to facilitate their evaluation of whether the measure meets NQF's measure evaluation criteria. This form allows the measure steward to present information demonstrating that the proposed measure meets NQF's criteria.

**Scientific Acceptability**

What is on the form? The information requested in this form is directly related to NQF's measure evaluation criteria and is consistent with the data fields agreed upon in the *Common Data Fields Collaboration*.

**Usability**

Can't I just submit our files for consideration? No. Measures must be submitted through the online form to be considered. Requested information should be entered directly into this form.

**Feasibility**

Can I submit additional details and materials? Additional materials will be considered only as supplemental. Do NOT rely on material provided in attachments or in links to provide measure specifications or to demonstrate meeting the criteria. For example, definitions should be provided in the measure specification detail fields. Some examples of appropriate supplemental materials include code lists that

**Related and Competing Measures**

**Additional**

# Entering Data Into the Online Form

- All red starred items (\*) are required
- Format:
  - Check boxes
  - Free text
  - If selecting, “Other” must include
- Attachments
  - No larger than 5MB
  - Word, Excel, Power Point & PDF Docs Accepted



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Call for Measure Submissions Measure Submission Form

Help | Begin Submission

### NQF Measure Submission Form, Version 5.0

Project Name : Behavioral Health  
Measure Title : Untitled Submission  
Measure Process : New Measure

Measure Type\*

Conditions that must be met for consideration by NQF

The following conditions must be met before a proposed measure may be considered and evaluated for suitability as voluntary consensus standards.

A. The measure is in the public domain or a Measure Steward Agreement is signed.  
(Measure evaluation condition A)  
Public domain only applies to governmental organizations. All non-government organizations must sign a Measure Steward Agreement even if measures are made publicly and freely available.

Do you attest that the measure steward holds intellectual property rights to the measure? (If no, do not submit)\*

Yes

Please check if either of the following apply

Proprietary measure

Proprietary complex measure with fees

# Reopening a draft version

- 1) Log in to the NQF site
- 2) Open your Dashboard.
- 3) Locate the “Submissions section just the “Projects I’m Following” feature. Within this section, you will see a list of the online submission forms that you’ve begun but haven’t yet submitted. The list also indicates the status of your submission form as “Draft” or “Submitted”.
- 4) Click on the draft’s title to access one of the drafts.

## **NOTE:**

- You are able to work with more than one measure submission form at a time. To do so, please refer to the User’s Guide.

## SUBMISSIONS

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Untitled Submission (Draft)

*A Test Project 1*

---

Untitled Submission (Draft)

*A Test Project 1*

## PROJECTS I'M FOLLOWING [VIEW ALL](#)

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You are not following any project.

 [How do I follow a project?](#)

# Submitting your completed Online Submission Form

- 1) Click the Submit button located in the upper right-hand and lower-right hand of each page of the submission form.
- 2) Click the Validation button, a pop-up window will appear listing those required data that you have not yet entered.
- 3) Certify that you've completed the submission form and entered all of the required information to complete the submission process.

**NOTE:**

- You are able to work with more than one measure submission form at a time. To do so, please refer to the User's Guide.

## SUBMISSIONS

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Untitled Submission (Draft)

*A Test Project 1*

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Untitled Submission (Draft)

*A Test Project 1*

## PROJECTS I'M FOLLOWING [VIEW ALL](#)

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# NQF Evaluation Criteria

## Importance to measure and report

- What is the level of evidence for the measures?
- Is there an opportunity for improvement?
- Relation to a priority area or high impact area of care?

## Scientific acceptability of the measurement properties

- What is the reliability and validity of the measure?

## Usability

- Are the measure results meaningful and understandable to intended audiences and useful for both public reporting and informing quality improvement?

## Feasibility

- Can the measure be implemented without undue burden, capture with electronic data/EHRs?

## Assess related and competing measures



# Evaluation Hierarchy

- Importance to measure and report – measure those aspects with greatest potential of driving improvements; if not important, the other criteria less meaningful (must-pass)
- Scientific acceptability of measure properties – goal is to make valid conclusions about quality; if not reliable and valid, risk of improper interpretation (must-pass)
- Usable – goal is to use for decisions related to selection and improvement; if not useful, probably do not care if feasible
- Feasible – ideally, cause as little burden as possible; if not feasible, consider alternative approaches
- If related or competing measures, harmonization & best-in-class

## Comparison to Related or Competing Measures

If a measure meets the four criteria and there are endorsed/new related measures (same measure focus or same target population) or competing measures (both the same measure focus and same target population), the measures are compared to address harmonization and/or selection of the best measure.

- a. The measure specifications are harmonized with related measures **OR** the differences in specifications are justified.
- b. The measure is superior to competing measures (e.g., is a more valid or efficient way to measure) **OR** multiple measures are justified.

# Harmonization and Related Measures

	Same concepts for measure focus—target process, condition, event, outcome	Different concepts for measure focus—target process, condition, event, outcome
Same target patient population	Competing measures—Select best measure from competing measures or justify endorsement of additional measure(s).	Related measures—Harmonize on target patient population or justify differences.
Different target patient population	Related measures—Combine into one measure with expanded target patient population or justify why different harmonized measures are needed.	Neither harmonization nor competing measure issue

# Additional Resources

## Found on NQF webpage:

- [User's Guide to NQF's Online Measure Submission Form](#)
- [Measure Evaluation Criteria Page](#)
- [Measure Steward Agreement](#)
- [Evidence Taskforce Report](#)
- [Measure Testing Taskforce Report](#)
- [Usability Taskforce Report](#)
- [Guidance on Harmonization](#)
- NQF Web Support: [web-help@qualityforum.org](mailto:web-help@qualityforum.org)

## Next Steps

- Call for Nominations closed December 13, 2011.
- Call for Measures closes February 14, 2011.
  - If you are able to submit prior to January 14, NQF Staff will have the opportunity to review and provide feedback.
- Optional: Measure Evaluation Webinar for Steering Committee is March 7, 2012.
- Steering Committee Meeting is April 17-18, 2012 in Washington D.C.

# Questions?

## Project Staff

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