



August 15, 2022

To: NQF members

From: NQF staff

Re: Behavioral Health and Substance Use Spring 2022 Measure Review Cycle

Background

This report reflects the review of measures in the Behavioral Health and Substance Use project. While data do show an increase in the prevalence of behavioral health disorders in the United States (U.S.), they also reveal that many Americans are not pursuing treatment for these disorders. Quality measurement and quality improvement tools remain an important aspect of assessing and improving the treatment of behavioral health conditions. The review and evaluation of behavioral health measures continue to be a priority of the National Quality Forum (NQF), with more than a decade of endorsing mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) measures. At present, there are 34 NQF-endorsed Behavioral Health and Substance Use measures.

The Behavioral Health and Substance Use [Standing Committee](#) reviewed seven measures this cycle. One measure was recommended for endorsement; however, the Standing Committee did not reach consensus on the six remaining measures.

Recommended Measures:

- #3312 Continuity of Care After Medically Managed Withdrawal From Alcohol and/or Drugs (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [CMS]/The Lewin Group)

Consensus Not Reached:

- #3313 Follow-Up Care for Adult Medicaid Beneficiaries Who Are Newly Prescribed an Antipsychotic Medication (CMS/The Lewin Group)
- #0710e Depression Remission at 12 Months (MN Community Measurement)
- #0711 Depression Remission at Six Months (MN Community Measurement)
- #1884 Depression Response at Six Months – Progress Towards Remission (MN Community Measurement)
- #1885 Depression Response at 12 Months – Progress Towards Remission (MN Community Measurement)
- #0712 Depression Assessment With PHQ-9/ PHQ-9M (MN Community Measurement)

The Standing Committee requests comments on all measures, especially the measures for which consensus was not reached.

NQF Member and Public Commenting

NQF members and the public are encouraged to provide comments via the online commenting tool on the draft report as a whole or on the specific measures evaluated by the Behavioral Health and Substance Use Standing Committee.

Please note that commenting concludes on September 13, 2022, at 11:59 PM ET—no exceptions.