

## Health and Well-Being Standing Committee September 2017 Off-Cycle Webinar

The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened a public webinar for the Health and Well-Being Standing Committee on September 7, 2017. An archived recording of the webinar is available for playback. The objectives of the meeting were to:

- Discuss the purpose and structure of measurement frameworks
- Discuss NQF's collaboration with the Urban Institute and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to develop a framework for Food Insecurity and Housing Instability

### *Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Objectives*

Andrew Anderson, Senior Director with NQF, began by welcoming participants, reviewing the objectives for the webinar, and offering the standing committee co-chair, Tom McInerney a moment to provide opening remarks. Yetunde Ogungbemi, Project Analyst at NQF, conducted a brief roll call of committee members and provided an overview of the purpose and objective of NQF's off-cycle activities. Mr. Anderson then introduced NQF's work on measurement the framework development process.

### *A Measurement Framework for Food Insecurity and Housing Instability*

Mr. Anderson proceeded to explain how frameworks provide a structure for organizing currently available measures, identifying measure gaps, and prioritizing measures for future development. NQF's measurement frameworks are comprised of domains and subdomains of measurement (i.e. categorizations/grouping of high-level ideas for what should be measured) and measure concepts (i.e. a description of a potential assessment tool that includes a planned target and population). Mr. Anderson then reviewed several examples that outline components of measurement frameworks. After providing the committee with an opportunity to ask questions, he introduced NQF's new work with the Urban Institute and CMS.

Mr. Anderson began by stating the purpose of the project, which is to develop a framework for the measurement of food insecurity and housing instability. A technical expert panel comprised of 12 members with expertise in the social determinants of health and measurement as well as specific expertise in food insecurity and housing instability will work to complete the objectives within this project. To support the project's goals, NQF will develop a draft measurement framework by conducting an environmental scan of measures and a review of current evidence. The expert panel will use these inputs to develop measure concepts that can be translated into performance measures.

### *Committee Discussion*

Mr. Anderson then initiated committee discussion with a request for participants to review and discuss the following questions:

- What are the key considerations for prioritizing measures (to be developed) for food and housing insecurity?

- Which existing frameworks or conceptual models should we consider to inform the development of the measurement framework?
- What are the most common tools to measure food and housing insecurity?
- What areas are most important to measure (i.e. highest impact on reducing food and housing insecurity)?
- What are the best resources for identifying tools and measures?
- What are the challenges to measuring food and housing insecurity?
- Is there enough overlap between measurement for food and housing insecurity to create a single framework?

The Committee provided useful feedback on several of the discussion questions. Notably, the committee recommended considering:

- Measures of housing instability that assess defaults on mortgages and measures of the number of evictions in communities
- Measures of housing quality but it has been difficult to assess and standardized historically
- Existing data sources that can be used to assess housing instability but are often not connected to clinical practice
- Discussing food insecurity and housing instability can be a sensitive issue. Patients may not always feel comfortable disclosing information that would help determine whether a patient is at risk for or currently “food insecure” or housing unstable. As the expert panel thinks about screening tools and measures, the panel should be mindful of the trust needed to collect this information
- Ways to target patients who have trouble paying for services. When a patient is unable to pay for their health services, providers should connect patients to a social worker to work through their financial issues
  - There are several states implementing innovation models to test how well care coordination between a patient and a financial services professional or social worker can work in clinical settings with adequate support
- The need to do more geospatial mapping to identify food deserts. There are measures that assess the length of time to get from a person’s home to a food source that sell fresh produce and other healthy foods
- Food and housing are related but distinct. There might be similar measures to detect whether a patient is food insecure or has unstable housing but the interventions to prevent or improve these situations may vary

### *Public Comment*

NQF opened the call for a public comment period at the end of the call. No comments were received.

### *Closing*

In closing, Mr. Anderson thanked attendees of the webinar for their participation. He invited the Committee to provide feedback at each of the projects milestones. Mr. McNerny also thanked the Committee and encouraged attendees to share additional comments with NQF staff after the call.