



## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: EYE CARE AND EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT CONDITIONS STANDING COMMITTEE**

### **BACKGROUND**

Glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration are common eye conditions that threaten the eyesight of many patients annually. Blindness and vision impairment are major public health problems that take a substantial toll on individuals and society including significant suffering, disability, loss of productivity, and diminished quality of life for millions of people. More than 3.4 million (3%) Americans 40 years and older are either blind or are visually impaired and millions more are at risk for developing vision impairment and blindness.<sup>1</sup>

Hearing loss affects one in ten Americans. About 35 million people develop chronic sinusitis each year, making it one of the most common health complaints in America. In 2010 there were an estimated 20 million visits to otolaryngologists in America, and one-fifth of the visits were made by persons less than 15 years of age.<sup>2</sup>

This project seeks to identify and endorse performance measures for accountability and quality improvement that address eye care and ear nose and throat health. NQF currently have eighteen (18) endorsed measures that are due for maintenance in the areas of glaucoma, macular degeneration, hearing screening and evaluation, and ear infections. These maintenance measures will be reevaluated against the most recent NQF measure evaluation criteria along with newly submitted measures.

### **COMMITTEE CHARGE**

A multi-stakeholder Standing Committee will be established to evaluate newly submitted measures and measures undergoing maintenance review and make recommendations for which measures should be endorsed as consensus standards. This Committee will work to identify and endorse new performance measures for accountability and quality improvement that specifically address eye care and ear, nose, and throat conditions. Measures including outcomes, treatments, diagnostic studies, interventions, or procedures associated with these conditions will be considered. Additionally, the Committee will evaluate consensus standards previously endorsed by NQF under the maintenance process.

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<sup>1</sup> CDC, [Improving the Nation's Vision Health: A Coordinated Public Health Approach](http://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/publications/vhi_report.htm), 2009. Available at [http://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/publications/vhi\\_report.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/publications/vhi_report.htm).

<sup>2</sup> CDC, [NAMCS Fact Sheet for Otolaryngology](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ahcd/NAMCS_2010_factsheet_otolaryngology.pdf), 2010. Available at [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ahcd/NAMCS\\_2010\\_factsheet\\_otolaryngology.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ahcd/NAMCS_2010_factsheet_otolaryngology.pdf).

**Nominations Due By Monday, March 9, 2015 6:00 PM ET**

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The Standing Committee's primary work is to evaluate the submitted measures against NQF's standard [measure evaluation criteria](#) and make recommendations for endorsement. The Committee will also:

- oversee the eye care and ear, nose, and throat conditions portfolio of measures
- identify and evaluate competing and related measures
- identify opportunities for harmonization of similar measures
- recommend measure concepts for development to address gaps in the portfolio
- provide advice or technical expertise about the subject to other committees (i.e. cross cutting committees or the Measures Application Partnership)
- ensure input is obtained from relevant stakeholders
- review draft documents
- recommend specific measures and research priorities to NQF Members for consideration under the Consensus Development Process (CDP).

To learn more about the work of NQF's CDP Standing Committees, review our [Committee Guidebook](#).

### STANDING COMMITTEE

This Committee will be seated as a standing committee comprised of 20- 25 individuals, with members serving terms that may encompass multiple measure review cycles.

#### *Terms*

**Standing Committee members will initially be appointed to a 2 or 3 year term.** Each term thereafter would be a 3 year term, with Committee members permitted to serve two consecutive terms. After serving two terms, the Committee member must step down for one full term (3 years) before becoming eligible for reappointment. For more information, please reference the [Standing Committee Policy](#).

**Participation on the Committee requires a significant time commitment. To apply, Committee members should be available to participate in all currently scheduled calls/meetings.** Over the course of the Committee member's term, additional calls will be scheduled or calls may be rescheduled; new dates will be set based on the availability of the majority of the Committee.

Each measure review cycle generally runs about 7 months in length.

#### **Committee participation includes:**

- Review measure submission forms during each cycle of measure review
  - Each committee member will be assigned a portion (1-5) of the measures to fully review (approximately 1-2 hours/measure) and provide a preliminary evaluation on a workgroup call
  - Each committee member should familiarize themselves with all measures being reviewed (approximately 15-30 minutes per measure)
- Participate in the orientation call (2 hours)
- The option to attend one of two NQF staff-hosted measure evaluation Q &A calls (1 hour)

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- Review measures with the full Committee by participating in one of 4 workgroup calls (2 hours); workgroup assignments will be made by area of expertise;
- Attendance at initial in-person meeting (2 full days in Washington, DC);
- Complete measure review by attending the post-meeting conference call (2 hours)
- Attend conference call following public commenting to review submitted comments (2 hours)
- Complete additional measure reviews via webinar
- Participate in additional calls as necessary
- Complete surveys and pre-meeting evaluations
- Present measures and lead discussions for the Committee on conference calls and in meeting

**Table of scheduled meeting dates**

Meeting	Date/Time
<b>Orientation Call (2 hours)</b>	April 6, 2015, 12:00PM- 2:00PM ET
<b>Measure Evaluation Q &amp;A</b>	May 1, 2015, 1:00PM-2:00PM ET May 7, 2015, 1:00PM-2:00PM ET
<b>Workgroup Call (2 hours)</b>	May 11, 2015, 12:00PM-2:00PM ET May 15, 2015, 12:00PM-2:00PM ET May 18, 2015, 3:00PM-5:00PM ET May 21, 2015, 12:00PM- 2:00PM ET
<b>In-person meeting (2 days in Washington, DC)</b>	June 3, 2015, 9:00AM- 5:00PM ET June 4, 2015, 9:00AM- 5:00PM ET
<b>Post meeting conference call (2 hours)</b>	June 22, 2015, 12:00PM- 2:00PM ET
<b>Post Draft Report Comment Call (2 hours)</b>	August 21, 2015, 12:00PM- 2:00PM ET

### ***Preferred Expertise & Composition***

Standing Committee members are selected to ensure representation from a variety of stakeholders, including consumers, purchasers, providers, professionals, plans, suppliers, community and public health, and healthcare quality experts. Because NQF attempts to represent a diversity of stakeholder perspectives on committees, a limited number of individuals from each of these stakeholder groups can be seated onto a committee.

Nominees should possess relevant knowledge and/or proficiency in process and outcome quality measurement and/or clinical expertise in the evaluation, treatment, diagnostic studies, imaging, interventions, or procedures associated with [topic area-specific conditions], across multiple care settings. NQF is seeking nominees with a variety of clinical experience, including physicians, nurses, therapists, case managers, unit managers, and executives, health plans and purchasers, as well as methodologists. We also are seeking expertise in disparities and care of vulnerable populations.

Please review the NQF [Conflict of interest policy](#) to learn about how NQF identifies potential conflict of interest. All potential Standing Committee members must disclose any current and past activities prior to and during the nomination process in order to be considered.

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### CONSIDERATION AND SUBSTITUTION

Priority will be given to nominations from NQF Members when nominee expertise is comparable. Please note that nominations are to an individual, not an organization, so “substitutions” of other individuals from an organization at conference calls, meetings or for voting is not permitted. Committee members are encouraged to engage colleagues and solicit input from colleagues throughout the process.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual has been contacted and is willing to serve. To be considered for appointment to the Standing Committee, please **submit** the following information:

- a completed [online nomination form](#), including:
  - a brief statement of interest
  - a brief description of nominee expertise highlighting experience relevant to the committee
  - a short biography (maximum 100 words), highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above and involvement in candidate measure development;
  - curriculum vitae or list of relevant experience (e.g., publications) *up to 20 pages*
- a completed disclosure of interest form. This will be requested upon your submission of the nominations form for Committees actively seeking nominees.
- confirmation of availability to participate in currently scheduled calls and meeting dates. Committees or projects actively seeking nominees will solicit this information upon submission of the online nomination form.

### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

All nominations *MUST* be submitted by **6:00 pm ET on March 9, 2015**.

### QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please contact Shaconna Gorham and Quintin Dukes at (202)-783-1300 or [EENT@qualityforum.org](mailto:EENT@qualityforum.org). Thank you for your interest.