

THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

MEASURE PRIORITIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF WEB MEETING #1

A web meeting of the Measure Prioritization Advisory Committee was held on Friday, May 21, 2010. For those interested in viewing an online archive of the web meeting please click on the link below:

<http://www.MyEventPartner.com/QualityForum/EE54D68481>

The next meeting of the advisory committee will take place on June 14-15, 2010.

Committee Members in Attendance at the May 21, 2010 Web Meeting:

George J. Isham (Co-Chair)	Anna Fallieras
Ellen Stovall (Co-Chair)	Frederick L. Grover
Christina Bethell (represented by Katie Zuckerman)	Nikki Highsmith
Karen Boudreau	Farzad Mostashari
Mark R. Chassin (represented by Margaret VanAmringe)	Greg Pawlson
Carey C. Cotterell	Michael Rapp (represented by Shari Ling)
	Bernard Rosof
	Kate Goodrich (Liaison)

This was the first in a series of in-person and web meetings with regard to the Measure Development & Endorsement Agenda Project. This meeting was intended to prepare the committee for the in-person meeting on June 14-15, 2010. The primary objectives of the web meeting were:

- to provide an overview of the committee's charge and previous work (i.e. prioritizing the 20 Medicare conditions and identifying and prioritizing measure gaps);
- set context for and explain new streams and proposed processes for the work ahead;
- identify key issues related to new streams of work; and
- set-up next steps for in-person meeting.

George Isham, Advisory Committee Co-Chair, provided committee members with an overview of the work at hand. He indicated that the committee will focus on the identification and prioritization of gap domains and sub-domains for multiple measurement streams:

- child health;
- population health; and
- HIT meaningful use quality measures.

This work will build on the Medicare work previously completed by the committee. Dr. Isham also discussed the need for the committee to focus on the development of a working agenda, with a broad vetting process with key stakeholders.

Janet Corrigan, President and CEO at NQF, discussed the importance of the committee's work in the context of the passage of healthcare reform. She stressed that the committee's work will focus on several core building blocks (transparency, payment alignment, healthcare information technology, and quality improvement) for addressing quality and affordability. These building blocks require performance measures to drive the system towards delivery of better quality of care. She emphasized the committee's opportunity to develop a coordinated agenda to identify key measure gaps, some of which may be cross-cutting in nature, which will be used to inform the direction of performance measures development in an ongoing fashion.

Nalini Pande, Senior Director, Strategic Partnerships at NQF, provided the committee with a broad overview of the approach for the project. The primary role of this committee will be to identify the important gaps in measurement for each stream, and to prioritize these gaps in order to refine the current portfolio of measures. The goal is not necessarily to have more measures, but rather to ensure that the portfolio includes the right, most high-leverage measures to achieve greater health outcomes. This work coincides with measure maintenance and harmonization efforts that are currently underway at NQF. These efforts aim to ensure that measures continue to meet NQF endorsement criteria, and that they are streamlined to the greatest extent possible to reduce the burden of measure collection efforts.

Tom Valuck, Senior Vice President, Strategic Partnerships at NQF, provided the committee with an overview of the NQF integrated framework for performance measurement, comprised of the National Priorities Partnership (NPP) priorities and the NQF patient-focused episode of care framework. He discussed the importance of the framework in highlighting the full spectrum of patient-focused performance measurement, including longitudinal and cross-cutting aspects. It is expected that the measurement development and endorsement agenda project will lead to the development of performance measures to populate different areas recognized in the integrated framework.

Charlie Homer, President and CEO for the National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality (NICHQ), provided an overview of key considerations in child health quality measurement. He reviewed a broad framework to be considered when approaching child health quality and performance measurement. These issues include a focus on healthy development and risks along with conditions and diagnoses, a dependence on familial and community factors, a broad distribution of childhood conditions, and finally the high level of diversity among children, impacted by issues of socio-economic status, race and ethnicity. Finally, Dr. Homer discussed the selection of an initial set of child health conditions and risks and key issues to be considered by the committee as part of its measure prioritization task.

Nalini Pande, Senior Director at NQF, described the committee's measure prioritization homework assignment, which involves submitting a preliminary ranking and any considerations, assumptions, or other issues with regard to the top child health conditions

provided to the committee. This ranking will serve to provide a starting point for the committee's prioritization discussion at the committee's first in-person meeting on June 14 and 15. She also provided an overview of the resources and tools that the committee will have to inform their deliberations.

Peter Briss, Special Advisor for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provided an overview of the National Priorities Partnership work on population health. He reviewed a list of population health measurement gap areas for the committee to consider along with examples of population health models that focus beyond the healthcare delivery system. Finally, Dr. Briss discussed domains of measurement that the health care system may focus on to best stimulate health improvement.

Several themes arose over the course of the two-hour conference call:

- Impact of childhood risk factors on adult health
- Dependence of child health on a range of factors including family well being and community safety
- The need for cost data on child health conditions at a national level
- A lack of evidence base for child health measures and the importance of using information that is available
- Illness Model vs. Health Child Model
- The relationship between population health measures intended for public health and those intended for the healthcare delivery system
- The scope of the committee's work and how specific the committee will need to be in identifying measure gaps.

Our next meeting will be in-person and held on June 14-15, 2010 in Washington, DC. The next web meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2010 (10:00 am - Noon ET).