



Neurology

Background

Neurological conditions are a leading cause of death and disability in the United States. Mortality data for 2017, compiled from all 50 states, show that stroke, Alzheimer's disease (AD), and Parkinson's disease are among the leading causes of death in the United States.ⁱ Crude death rates per 100,000 persons for stroke and AD were 37.6 and 31.0 percent, respectively. U.S. disability associated life years (DALYs) for 2016, which tabulate death *and* disability for all neurologic diseases (including stroke and AD), were nearly 40 times above those combined rates (all DALYs attributable to neurologic disease in the United States equal to 2,652).ⁱⁱ

This NQF project seeks to identify, assess, and endorse performance measures for accountability and quality improvement that address the spectrum of public health and medical strategies aiming to reduce the burden of neurological disease and assess quality of care. Conditions targeted include, but are not limited to, strokes, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, dementia, movement/neuromuscular disorders, traumatic brain and spinal cord injury, sleep and consciousness disorders, headaches and other pain, autism, and meningitis.

With the guidance from the NQF Neurology Standing Committee, NQF evaluates both novel and existing quality performance measures related to neurologic conditions that can be used for accountability and public reporting for all populations and in all settings of care.

Committee Charge

The Neurology Standing Committee evaluates newly submitted measures and measures undergoing maintenance review against [NQF's standard measure evaluation criteria](#) and makes recommendations for endorsement.

The Committee's other responsibilities include:

- Overseeing the Neurology portfolio of measures
- Identifying and evaluating competing and related measures
- Identifying opportunities for harmonization of similar measures
- Recommending measure concepts for development to address gaps in the portfolio
- Providing advice or technical expertise about the subject to other committees (i.e., cross-cutting Committees or the Measure Applications Partnership)
- Evaluating new measures and measures undergoing maintenance review and making recommendations for which measures should be endorsed/continue to be endorsed as consensus standards

- Identifying and endorsing performance measures for accountability and quality improvement that specifically address, but are not limited to stroke, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, dementia and Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's, traumatic brain injury, and other neurological conditions
- Making general and specific recommendations regarding neurology quality measurement/improvement gaps and priorities

The Standing Committee's primary work is to evaluate the submitted measures against NQF's standard measure evaluation criteria and make recommendations for endorsement.

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

Committee Structure

Terms

New Standing Committee members are appointed to a two- or three-year term with the ability to extend for one additional term of two years. Committee members may serve two consecutive terms for a total of five years (or 10 evaluation cycles). The Committee member's term on a Standing Committee begins upon selection to the Committee, immediately following the close of the roster commenting period.

Participation on the Committee requires a significant time commitment.

To apply, you should be available to participate in all currently scheduled (see *Table of Scheduled Meeting Dates* below) calls/meetings. Over the course of the fall 2020 and spring 2021 measure review cycles, additional calls may be scheduled, or calls may be rescheduled based on project needs; new dates will be set based on the availability of the majority of the Committee.

Committee participation includes:

- Participating in the scheduled Orientation Web Meeting (two hours)
- Identifying and disclosing potential biases (real or perceived)
- Reviewing all measure submission forms (approximately two hours per measure)
- Completing all surveys and evaluations
- Attending all scheduled evaluation meetings. These may be in-person meetings (one full day in Washington, DC) or a series of webinars (typically two hours each)
- Leading discussion of some measures at calls or meetings and participating in the discussion and vote on ratings and recommendations for all measures
- Reviewing meeting summaries and/or draft reports
- Completing measure evaluation by reviewing the comments received on the draft report and then participating on the post-comment webinar (two hours)
- Completing additional measure evaluations by conference call or webinar if needed
- Participating in additional calls or webinars as necessary

Table of Scheduled Meeting Dates

Meeting	Date/Time
Orientation Web Meeting	January 8, 2021 at 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM ET
Measure Evaluation Web Meeting	February 5, 2021 at 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM ET
Post Comment Web Meeting	May 25, 2021 at 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM ET

Preferred Expertise and Composition

Neurology 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, a limited number of individuals from each of these stakeholder groups can be seated onto a Committee.

NQF is seeking to fill **up to 12** seats for the Neurology Standing Committee with relevant expertise in or experience and/or expertise in healthcare quality and performance measurement within neurology, including disparities within neurologic disease and care.

Additionally, NQF is looking representatives from the following stakeholder groups:

- Clinicians (e.g., physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals) within the following areas: emergency medicine, stroke care, geriatrics, radiology, post-acute care/long term care, and rehabilitation)
- Patients and caregivers (e.g., consumer groups, patient advocacy groups)
- Care transition team members (e.g., case managers, social workers, care coordination)
- Academic and policy researchers in neurological disease and care
- Healthcare purchasers (state, federal, and/or private)

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

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 are not permitted. Committee members are encouraged to engage colleagues and solicit input from them throughout the process.

Application Requirements

Nominations are sought for individuals. Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual or organization if applicable has been contacted and is willing to serve.

To nominate an individual to the Neurology Standing Committee, please **submit** the following information:

Nominations due by Monday, November 2, 2020 6:00 pm ET

- 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; CDP only]
 - 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 Monday, November 2, 2020**.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact Oroma Igwe, MPH at 202-783-1300 or at neurology@qualityforum.org. Thank you for your interest.

ⁱ Kochanek KD, Murphy SL, Xu J, et al., Deaths: final data for 2017, National Vital Statistics Report, 68(9), June 24, 2019.

ⁱⁱ GBD 2016 Neurology Collaborators. Global, regional, and national burden of neurological disorders, 1990-2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. *Lancet Neurol.* 2019;18: 459-480.