



Patient Experience and Function Standing Committee – Spring 2021 Post-Comment Web Meeting

The National Quality Forum (NQF) attempted to hold a web meeting for the Patient Experience and Function Standing Committee on Wednesday October 20, 2021, from 2:00-4:00 pm ET and again on Monday, October 25, from 1:30-2:30 pm ET.

NQF policy dictates that in order for a meeting discussion to be held, 50 percent of the Standing Committee members must be present. During the post-comment meeting on October 20, 2021, the necessary threshold for attendance was not achieved (10 out of 22 Standing Committee members were present). As a result, the meeting was rescheduled to Monday, October 25, 2021; however, the necessary threshold for attendance was once again not achieved (10 out of 22 Standing Committee members were present). NQF staff discussed the public comments received with the Standing Committee co-chairs and proceeded with an offline review of the public comments and approval of the Standing Committee's response. NQF staff reached out to the Standing Committee via email with the comment that would have been discussed along with the proposed Standing Committee response in order to gather the Standing Committee's feedback.

Welcome, Review of Meeting Objectives, and Attendance

Tamara Funk, NQF director, welcomed the Standing Committee and provided an overview of the objectives at each meeting:

- Review and discuss comments received during the post-evaluation public and member commenting period
- Provide input on proposed responses to the post-evaluation comments
- Review and discuss NQF members' expressions of support of the measures under consideration

The Standing Committee members each introduced themselves. No Standing Committee members were recused for NQF #3622 *National Core Indicators for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Measures*.

Offline Discussion of Comments Received

As stated above, the Standing Committee engaged in offline discussions and a review of one public comment. The comment (NQF #7780) reiterates several concerns previously raised during the measure evaluation meeting and highlights a concern regarding stratification. NQF #3622 consists of 14 measures in total. The commenter stated that in one measure (#CC-4 the proportion of people who report making choices, independently or with help, in life decisions) the list of categories for residential placement is not comprehensive. They noted that other categories such as supported housing, supervised apartments, independent living apartments, and etc., should also be listed. They also echoed the Standing Committee's earlier concerns with feasibility and the diversity of the sample population.

During the offline review of the comment and proposed response, the Standing Committee approved

the following response to the public comment, “The Standing Committee thanks the commenter for their comment and accepts the response provided by the measure developer. The residential categorization of concern is explained in full in the measure submission and accounts for unrepresented response options. The Standing Committee also had questions about feasibility and diversity in the sample population and discussed these items at length during the measure evaluation meeting. In evaluating these measures against NQF’s endorsement criteria, the Standing Committee agreed the measure fills an important measurement gap and meets all NQF criteria. The Standing Committee ultimately recommends this measure for endorsement.”

During the offline review of this public comment, several Standing Committee members provided additional feedback, which was shared with the measure developer. They noted that while this measure fills a significant gap for this population, it might not be appropriate to use for direct comparisons and rankings between states via public reporting or for payment at the state and provider levels at this time.

Activities and Timelines

The Consensus Standards Approval Committee (CSAC) will consider the Standing Committee’s endorsement recommendations during its meetings on November 30 – December 1, 2021. Following the CSAC meeting, the 30-day Appeals period will be held from December 7, 2021 – January 5, 2022.