



NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

Driving measurable health
improvements together

Memo

March 25, 2021

To: NQF Members

From: NQF Staff

Re: Patient Safety Fall 2020 Technical Report

Background

This report reflects the review of measures in the Patient Safety project. Measures in this portfolio focus on medication safety, healthcare-associated infection, falls, pressure ulcers, and other safety concerns. Measures in this review cycle focused on medication safety as it relates to older adults and post-discharge medication reconciliation. Also reviewed were measures that assess mortality rates following hospitalization for pneumonia and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, as well as a composite measure that encompasses a series of hospital level-quality indicators as it relates to potentially preventable hospital-related events associated with harmful outcomes for patients.

The 25-person Patient Safety Standing Committee reviewed six measures. Four were recommended for endorsement, one was not recommended for endorsement, and the Standing Committee did not reach consensus for the remaining measure.

Recommended Measures:

- **NQF #0468:** Hospital 30-Day, All-Cause, Risk-Standardized Mortality Rate (RSMR) Following Pneumonia Hospitalization (Yale Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (Yale CORE))
- **NQF #1893:** Hospital 30-Day, All-Cause, Risk-Standardized Mortality Rate (RSMR) Following Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Hospitalization (Yale Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (Yale CORE))
- **NQF #0531:** Patient Safety Indicator (PSI) 90: Patient Safety and Adverse Events Composite (IMPAQ International)
- **NQF #2993:** Potentially Harmful Drug-Disease Interactions in Older Adults (National Committee for Quality Assurance)

Measures Not Recommended:

- **NQF #0097:** Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge (National Committee for Quality Assurance)

Consensus Not Reached:

- **NQF #0022:** Use of High-Risk Medications in Older Adults (DDE) (National Committee for Quality Assurance)

The Standing Committee requests comments on all measures but specifically for the measures in which consensus was not reached.

NQF Member and Public Commenting

NQF members and the public are encouraged to provide comments via the online commenting tool on the draft report as a whole or on the specific measures evaluated by the Patient Safety Standing Committee.

Please note that commenting concludes on April 23, 2021, at 6:00 pm ET—no exceptions.