



NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

Driving measurable health
improvements together

Memo

August 11, 2021

To: NQF members

From: NQF staff

Re: Patient Safety Spring 2021 Measure Review Cycle

Background

This report reflects the review of measures in the Patient Safety project. The Patient Safety Standing Committee carefully vets new and existing patient safety measures and makes recommendations for endorsement. Measures within the NQF Patient Safety portfolio have been used in various accountability and public reporting programs, which have led to lower rates of complications, medical errors, mortality, and other patient safety events. The NQF Patient Safety portfolio includes various process measures as well as patient safety outcome measures, such as mortality, pressure ulcers, falls, and others.

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

Recommended Measures:

- #0500 Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: Management Bundle (Henry Ford Hospital)
- #3621 Composite Weighted Average for Computerized Tomography (CT) Exam Types: Overall Percent of CT Exams for Which Dose Length Product Is at or Below the Size-Specific Diagnostic Reference Level (for CT Abdomen-pelvis with contrast/single phase scan, CT Chest without contrast/single (American College of Radiology [ACR]))
- #0679 Percent of High-Risk Residents With Pressure Ulcers (Long Stay) (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services)
- #0674 Percent of Residents Experiencing One or More Falls With Major Injury (Long Stay) (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services)
- #3389 Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines (COB) (Pharmacy Quality Alliance)

Consensus Not Reached:

- **#3501e** Hospital Harm – Opioid-Related Adverse Events (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services/IMPAQ International, LLC)

The Standing Committee requests comments on all measures, but specifically for the measures where 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 the commenting period concludes on September 9, 2021, at 6:00 PM ET—no exceptions.