



Patient Safety Standing Committee Web Meeting

The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened a public web meeting for the Patient Safety Standing Committee on February 13, 2018.

Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Web Meeting Objectives

Andrew Lyzenga, NQF senior director, welcomed participants to the web meeting. Mr. Lyzenga provided opening remarks and reviewed the following meeting objective:

- Introduction to the NQF Measure Prioritization Initiative

Prioritization

Dr. John Bernot, NQF senior director, introduced NQF's new strategic vision around measure prioritization. The initiative is part of NQF's strategic plan as NQF is looking to take on more of a leadership role in measurement science and drive quality improvement through measurement. The measure prioritization efforts will enhance NQF's endorsement process and allow for more targeted identification and focus on measurement gaps. Dr. Bernot reviewed NQF prioritization criteria, which originated from a qualitative analysis and were vetted and validated through various stakeholders including the Consensus Standards Approval Committee (CSAC), NQF members, standing committees, and the Measure Applications Partnership (MAP). The prioritization criteria and approach have been pilot tested with four Standing Committees (Palliative and End-of-Life Care, Cancer, Renal, and Neurology). The four prioritization criteria follow:

- Outcome-focused
 - Outcome measures and measures with a strong link to improved outcomes and costs
- Improvable
 - Measures with demonstrated need for improvement and evidence-based strategies for doing so
- Support systematic and integrated view of care
 - Measures that reflect care that spans settings, providers, and time to ensure that care is improving within and across systems of care
- Meaningful to patients and caregivers
 - Person-centered measures with meaningful and understandable results for patients and caregivers

Dr. Bernot also introduced NQF's draft rubric. The purpose of the rubric is to quantify how well a measure meets the prioritization criteria. NQF staff clarified that the rubric is still in development and welcomed the participants' feedback on the weighting of the criteria. The rubric was applied to the Patient Safety portfolio of measures and provided a rating for each measure in this portfolio.

Committee members shared some positive comments on the NQF prioritization initiative. One Committee member recommended that NQF also refer to The Joint Commission initiative on prioritization and incidence. There was discussion that the rubric would give a process measure a lower score than an outcome measure. A couple of Committee members commented that they would like to see potential unintended consequences factored into decisions and incorporated into prioritization. Committee members would also like to see a comparison in the future of scores of the patient safety project measures with other NQF measure portfolios.

Dr. Bernot indicated that the next step would be for NQF staff to collect feedback on the preliminary prioritization of the Patient Safety portfolio of measures. Staff will be sending a survey to the Committee and expert reviewers to collect this information within the next few weeks

Public Comment

Mr. Lyzenga opened the web meeting to allow for public comment. No public comments were offered.

Next Steps

Hiral Dudhwala, project manager, reviewed the next steps for the Patient Safety project with the Standing Committee and expert reviewers. Ms. Dudhwala noted that the patient safety draft report would be posted for a 30-day comment period on March 1, 2018. Ms. Dudhwala reviewed the remaining fall 2017 cycle timeline, inclusive of the post-comment web meeting, CSAC review meeting, and appeals period.

Ms. Dudhwala also reviewed the spring 2018 cycle timeline, inclusive of the web meetings and in-person meeting date with the Standing Committee and expert reviewers. However, Ms. Dudhwala noted that the meetings would depend on measures submitted for review in the spring 2018 cycle. The NQF project team will email updates to the Committee and expert reviewers once measure submissions are confirmed for the spring 2018 cycle.