



### Patient Safety Standing Committee Post-Comment Web Meeting

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The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened a public web meeting for the Patient Safety Standing Committee on September 22, 2020.

#### Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Web Meeting Objectives

Dr. Matthew Pickering, NQF senior director, welcomed participants to the web meeting. Dr. Pickering provided an overview of the meeting objectives and conducted the Committee roll call. Co-chairs, Dr. Ed Septimus and Dr. Iona Thraen, welcomed the Committee to the call.

#### Review and Discuss Public Comments Received

During the spring 2020 cycle, the Patient Safety Standing Committee reviewed two measures during the June 2020 measure evaluation meetings. Both measures were recommended for endorsement.

Recommended:

- #3558 Initial Opioid Prescribing for Long Duration (IOP-LD)
- #2723 Wrong-Patient Retract-and-Reorder (Wrong Patient-RAR)

The draft report for this measure cycle was posted on the project webpage for public and NQF member comment on July 27, 2020 for 30 days. The commenting period closed on August 25, 2020.

Dr. Pickering summarized the comments received by both measures during the public commenting period. Dr. Pickering also reviewed the proposed Committee responses, and Drs. Septimus and Thraen facilitated any discussion between the developers and Committee members, as summarized below. NQF received nine comments. Some comments expressed similar concerns raised during the June measure evaluation Committee meeting. A summary of the public comments and developer responses are in the [comment memo](#) and [comment table](#).

Seven comments were received for measure #3558, which addressed the evidence criterion not being met, potential for multiple opioid prescriptions being dispensed the same day for a single patient, inclusion of patients in long term care (LTC) settings, inclusion of methadone, CMS reporting requirements, and overall support of the Committee's recommendation.

The Committee also recommended to the developer that they continue to monitor for potential exclusions, such as LTC settings, methadone, and unintended consequences that are identified and, if appropriate, consider them in future updates of this measure.

Two comments were received for NQF #2723, which focused on validity and measure rate as a function of number of prescriptions ordered and the use of the term "provider" as compared to "clinician." The developer mentioned on the call that the measure captures self-caught miss errors, which has been endorsed by several different groups including NQF. The developer also described the theoretical model that associated near-misses with actual wrong patient safety orders had not been fully linked; yet, conceptually near-misses captured in this measure are designed as a proxy for actual error. The

Committee further stated that the measure may be an indirect measure of electronic health record usability and compliance for best practices at the system level rather than holding individuals accountable for personal failures, which is its intent. However, the Committee was reminded by the NQF staff that they previously reviewed these issues and passed the measure on importance and validity during the June 2020 meeting. The Committee also recommended that the developer be more consistent with the term used to describe a clinician in future updates to the measure.

Overall, the Committee was satisfied with the developers' responses to the comments and agreed that the concerns in these public comments were adequately addressed. The Committee did not elect to reconsider any of their previous recommendations for endorsement of the measures.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **Next Steps**

Chris Dawson, NQF manager, reviewed next steps. The Committee will open a call for nominations October 1-November 2, 2020 to replace several members whose terms expire on September 30, 2020. Mr. Dawson also informed the Committee that the Consensus Standards Approval Committee (CSAC) would consider the Committee's endorsement recommendations during its meeting on November 17-18, 2020.