

THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

PATIENT SAFETY MEASURES

The National Quality Forum (NQF) is seeking nominations for members of a Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Panels for a new project to endorse patient safety measures across conditions, populations, and settings of care.

BACKGROUND: In November 2008, the National Priorities Partnership (NPP) deemed Patient Safety as one of the six national priorities, with specific focus on reduction of hospital-level mortality rates, serious adverse events, and healthcare associated infections. Among the NQF inventory of almost 550 endorsed measures, slightly less than 100 measures (~20%) currently relate to patient safety. In addition, NQF has endorsed 34 safe practices in the 2009 update of the Safe Practices for Better Healthcare and 28 Serious Reportable Events (SREs) are listed in the latest version (2006) of the SRE program. The SREs, Safe Practices, and NQF-endorsed patient safety measures are important tools for tracking and improving patient safety performance in American health care. However, significant gaps remain in the measurement of patient safety. There is also a recognized need to expand available patient safety measures beyond the hospital setting and harmonize safety measures across sites and settings of care. In order to fill these gaps and to develop a more robust set of safety measures, NQF will be soliciting patient safety measures to fill gap areas that address condition-specific and environment-specific issues with the highest potential leverage for improvement (e.g., healthcare associated infections, culture of safety, and hospital standardized mortality rates).

STEERING COMMITTEE: The Patient Safety Measures Steering Committee, comprising up to 20 individuals, will represent the range of stakeholder perspectives, including consumers, purchasers, quality improvement professionals, researchers, and healthcare system professionals possessing knowledge and/or experience in relevant clinical areas. Specific clinical expertise will likely be required in some of the areas identified in the Call for Measures, including healthcare associated infections, adverse events, mortality, and culture of safety. Knowledge of specific healthcare environments such as, but not exclusively, ambulatory care, nursing homes, hospitals, emergency departments, surgical services, and home health is desirable. Depending on submitted measures, technical advisory panels in these areas will be empanelled.

The Steering Committee will oversee the development of a draft consensus report, including recommendation of which measures should be endorsed as consensus standards for patient safety. **Steering Committee members should not have a vested interest in the candidate measures. This includes employees or contractors of measure owners/developers; members of workgroups that developed the measures; and members of committees that approve measures, or direct or set policy for measure development.** Please see the NQF website for additional information about the conflict of interest policy. All potential Steering Committee members must disclose any current and past activities during the nomination process.

As with all NQF projects, the Steering Committee will work with NQF staff to develop specific project plans, provide advice about the subject, ensure input is obtained from relevant stakeholders, review draft products, and recommend specific measures and research priorities to NQF Members for consideration under the Consensus Development Process.

NOMINATIONS DUE BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010, 6:00 PM EST

THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

TIME COMMITMENT: *The Steering Committee will meet in person for a two-day meeting on Monday and Tuesday, March 8 and 9, 2010, in Washington, DC.* Additionally, Steering Committee members will meet three times by conference call for two hours each. Follow-up e-mail communications or conference calls may be needed.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANELS: Depending on the measures submitted to this project, NQF may use TAPs of up to 10 members each to provide additional measurement and clinical expertise in specific clinical areas or environments of care. The TAPs will work with NQF staff to provide technical evaluation of the measures against NQF's standard measure evaluation criteria. The TAP will be chaired by a member of the Patient Safety Measures Steering Committee with the relevant expertise. The TAPs will likely meet for a one-day meeting in Washington, DC, though the majority of work will be conducted via email/conference calls.

CONSIDERATION AND SUBSTITUTION: Priority will be given to nominations from NQF Members. Please note that nominations are to an individual, not an organization, so "substitutions" of other individuals from an organization at conference calls are not permitted.

MATERIAL TO SUBMIT: Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual has been contacted and is willing to serve. To be considered for appointment to the Steering Committee or Technical Advisory Panels, please send the following information:

- A completed [Nomination Form](#);
- confirmation of availability to participate in the March 8 and 9 in-person meeting;
- a 2-page letter of interest and a 100 word maximum biography, highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above and involvement in candidate measure development; and
- curriculum vitae and/or list of relevant experience (e.g., publications) *up to 20 pages*; and
- completed "[Non-Disclosure Agreement](#)" form.

Materials should be submitted only via email to patientsafety@qualityforum.org with the subject line "Nominations."

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: All nominations MUST be submitted by **6:00pm EST on Tuesday, February 2, 2010.**

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Lyzenga at 202.783.1300 or patientsafety@qualityforum.org. Thank you for your assistance!

NOMINATIONS DUE BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010 6:00 PM EST