



**CALL FOR MEASURES AND MEASURE CONCEPTS:
Person and Family Centered Care, Phase 1 and 2**

NQF is seeking new measures and concepts in the areas of Person and Family Centered Care.

This project will primarily focus on patient-reported outcomes (PROs). Across two phases of work, NQF will review newly submitted and endorsed maintenance measures focused on person and family-centered care, including the domains of experience with care including engagement, shared decision-making, and communication; health-related quality of life including functional status and clinician assessed function; and symptom/symptom burden such as pain.

NQF is particularly interested in measures:

- patient-reported outcome (PRO)-based performance measures;
- measures of intermediate clinical outcomes or longer term health outcomes, including complications;
- composite performance measures;
- measures applicable to more than one setting;
- measures that capture broad populations, including children and adolescents where applicable;
- measures that are harmonized with similar measures; and,
- measures that are sensitive to vulnerable populations, including racial/ethnic minorities; and Medicaid populations.

This project launched on October 28, 2013. The final submission deadline for Phase 1 is March 14, 2014 and the submission deadline for Phase 2 is November 7, 2014.

BACKGROUND

Ensuring person and family-centered care is a core concept embedded in the National Quality Strategy priority of ensuring that each person and family is engaged as partners in their care. Person and family-centered care encompasses patient and family engagement in care, including shared decision-making and preparation and activation for self-care management, and the outcomes of interest to patients receiving healthcare services, including health-related quality of life, functional status, symptoms and symptom burden, and experience with care. This project will primarily focus on patient-reported outcomes (PROs), but also may include some clinician-assessed functional status measures. NQF's [2012 project on PROs](#) in performance measurement provides a basis for reviewing PRO-based performance measures, referred to as PRO-PMs.

**Phase 1 Measure Submissions Due By March 14, 2014, 6:00 PM ET
Phase 2 Measures Submissions Due by November 7, 2014, 6:00 PM ET**



NQF has identified 40 endorsed measures that are due for endorsement maintenance. Given the number and complexity of endorsed measures to review as well as an expectation of additional new measure submissions, NQF will undertake this project in two phases. Phase 1 will examine experience with care measures and Phase 2 will review measures of functional status (clinician and patient-assessed) and health-related quality of life. The second phase will begin immediately after the first phase.

Due to changes in the submission form and new guidance on evaluating patient-reported outcome-based performance measures (PRO-PMs), measure developers are strongly encouraged to communicate with project staff early on in the measure submission period before filling out the submission form. Project staff will be contacting all maintenance developers to discuss their measures.

MEASURE CONCEPTS

NQF is soliciting measure concepts from measure developers and end-users through NQF's new Measure Inventory Pipeline. This pipeline will serve as an important source of information for HHS and other stakeholders on new measure development in the broader healthcare community. It will also enable NQF to track current and planned measure development to ensure early collaboration among developers to drive harmonization and alignment of measures.

In an effort to capture comprehensive information on measures in development, NQF seeks input on several variables including:

- measure description;
- numerator statement;
- denominator statement (target population);
- planned use,
- stage of development; and
- other relevant information.

Please note that the information entered through NQF's Measure Inventory Pipeline will not be evaluated by the Steering Committee against the NQF Criteria. Submitted information will be catalogued by NQF and used to help inform the Steering Committee's measure gaps discussion. NQF will also share the information with HHS to inform CMS' Measure Inventory Pipeline, which is a reference for several stakeholders.

NQF's Measure Inventory Pipeline will be available for concept submissions in November 2013.

Phase 1 Measure Submissions Due By March 14, 2014, 6:00 PM ET
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MEASURE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To submit a measure, please complete the following:

- [Measure Submission Form](#) Clicking on this link will redirect you to the webpage for this project, from which you can access the online measure submission form.
- **Measure Steward Agreement** Please note that no materials will be accepted without submission of a fully executed *Measure Steward Agreement Form (or updated addendum)*. Please note, the MSA has been changed and all developers must execute a new MSA. All materials not meeting this requirement will be returned to the sender.

Please note that no material will be accepted without submission of a fully executed *Measure Steward Agreement Form*. All materials not meeting this requirement will be returned to the sender.

Materials for Phase 1 must be submitted using the online submission form by 6:00 pm, ET March 14, 2014. Materials for Phase 2 must be submitted using the online submission form by 6:00 pm, ET November 7, 2014. If you have any questions please contact Mitra Ghazinour, Project Manager, at 202-783-1300 or via e-mail at pfcc@qualityforum.org.

Conditions for Consideration:

- The measure owner/steward verifies there is an identified responsible entity and process to maintain and update the measure on a schedule that is commensurate with the rate of clinical innovation, but at least every three years.¹
- The intended use of the measure includes both public accountability and quality improvement.
- The measure is fully specified and [tested for reliability and validity](#). Measures that are not tested will not be accepted in this project.
- The measure developer/steward attests that [harmonization](#) with related measures and issues with competing measures have been considered and addressed, as appropriate.
- The requested measure submission information is complete and responsive to the questions so that all the information needed to evaluate all [criteria](#) is provided.

Submission Guidance:

- [Developer guidebook](#):
 - A Developer Guidebook as has been created to assist developers in the measure

¹ Measure stewards must execute a Measure Steward Agreement with NQF.



submission and evaluation process. The Guidebook contains all the information developers need to know when submitting a measure to NQF.

- ICD-10-CM/PCS:
 - Beginning April 1, 2013 measures specified with administrative claims data must submit a set of ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM/PCS codes. Click [here](#) for further information on this requirement.
- eMeasures:
 - Must be submitted in Health Quality Measures Format (HQMF);
 - Review the [current measure evaluation criteria and guidance](#) [link]
- Composite measures:
 - Please notify project staff if you plan to submit a composite measure

Technical Assistance

NQF project staff will provide technical assistance to measure developers at any time during the measure submission process up to the submission deadline. Contact the project team with any questions about the criteria, how to answer the questions in the form, any technical issues with the online submission process... or anything else!

MEASURE SUBMISSION COMPLETENESS CHECKLIST

- Measure steward agreement or concept agreement is completed and signed
- All conditions for submission are met.
- There are responses in all fields on measure submission form (MSF) unless a particular item is not applicable as indicated in the item instructions.
- Attachments include: eMeasure specifications (S.2a) if applicable; data dictionary/code list (S.2b); Evidence and Measure Testing attachments.
- All URLs are active and accurate.
- Harmonization/competing measures: Did you present a plan for harmonization of the related/competing measures identified by staff during early identification/triage or justify submitting competing or non-harmonized measures? (see Harmonization process in the [Developer Guidebook](#)).
- Paired measures should be submitted on separate forms.
- An eMeasure must be specified in HQMF format, using QDM and value sets vetted through the VSAC.
- Composite performance measures: responses to the composite measure items are included.
- Both ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes are included



RESOURCES FOR MEASURE DEVELOPERS AND STEWARDS

For more details on measure submission and evaluation, please see:

- [Submitting Standards Web Page](#)
- [Measure Evaluation Criteria Web Page](#)

On these pages you will find the most current criteria and guidance for evaluating the criteria as well as examples of responses for the measure submission form, and special reports.

- [Evidence Task Force Report](#)
- [Measure Testing Task Force Report](#)
- [Harmonization Report](#)
- [Competing Measures Report](#)

Evaluation and Measure Submission Guidance:

- [eMeasure Testing Guidance Report](#)
- [Guidance on Quality Performance Measure Construction](#)
- [Evidence and Importance to Measure and Report](#)
- [Measure Testing and Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties](#)
- [Composite Evaluation Criteria](#)
- [Resource Use Measure Evaluation Criteria](#)
- [Endorsement Maintenance Policy](#)