



Population Health Framework Web Meeting July 7, 2016

The final Population Health Framework web meeting was July 7, 2016. A total of 77 participants attended, including 16 Committee members, ten representatives from eight of the Field Testing Groups, and the six NQF project team members ([Appendix A](#)). A recording of the meeting is available here: <http://nqf.commpartners.com/se/Meetings/Playback.aspx?meeting.id=855744>

Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Meeting Objectives

Marcia Wilson, Senior Vice President, National Quality Forum and Committee Co-Chairs, Kaye Bender and Steven Teutsch, provided opening remarks and welcomed participants to the meeting. Dr. Teutsch reviewed the meeting objectives to: 1) discuss the comments received on the Action Guide; 2) reflect on accomplishments and lessons learned; 3) highlight opportunities to sustain engagement on population health improvement using the Action Guide as a framework; and 4) obtain feedback from the Committee, Field Testing Groups (FTGs), and members of the public on the future of population health improvement work at NQF.

Public and NQF Member Comments on the Action Guide 3.0

Kim Ibarra, Project Manager, provided an overview of the nature and tone of the comments received on the Action Guide. Overall, the comments were positive and appreciative of the Action Guide and its resources. Several commenters suggested adding resources such as research about a new approach to subpopulation data analytics from the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, the Community Health Navigator from the CDC and the Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health. A few also requested expanding language about specific populations in the Guide, such as family caregivers, and adults with disabilities, mental illness, and behavioral health needs.

Diane Stollenwerk, Consultant, outlined the revisions that have been made to finalize the Action Guide based on the comments received. Language was refined to reflect the specific populations in the comments; additional resources with a direct link to population health were added to the Guide; and resources focused on traditional healthcare measurement were not added. Additional refinements to the text will occur during editing processes at NQF, while maintaining the plain language used in the Action Guide to ensure broad readability as emphasized by the Committee, FTGs, and public throughout the project.

Dr. Bender asked the Committee and FTGs whether they have any final feedback on revisions to the Action Guide. One Committee member emphasized the importance, not only of plain language, but also cross-cultural language and stories to highlight the data in the Action Guide. Another Committee member expressed the need for the communication section of the Guide to also include receiving information from stakeholders. He also suggested adding more references to health disparities measurement in the Guide and emphasizing the interrelated elements of the Action Guide.

Accomplishments and Lessons Learned

Elisa Munthali provided an overview of the journey from beginning of the project to the end. She highlighted the connection to the National Quality Strategy (NQS) as a catalyst for this project by promoting healthy living and well-being through improvements to social, economic and environmental factors, adoptions of health lifestyles, and effective clinical preventive care. She then identified where the population health work fits within NQF and connected this work to the Health and Well-being Measure Endorsement and Maintenance and MAP Family of Population Health Measures projects.

Elisa spoke about the start of the project, with an environmental scan of existing frameworks and Committee input that helped to shape the first iteration of the Action Guide. Action Guide 1.0 incorporated the expertise and knowledge of the Committee members, who represent various sectors of the Population Health stakeholder community. During the first option year, ten FTGs were selected to “test” the Action Guide 1.0 and provide input to NQF on implementing the elements in the Action Guide. NQF gained practical insights from the FTGs that led to Action Guide 2.0. In this final project year, NQF collaborated with the FTGs to understand the measures used by each FTG, how their measures are being applied and the practical challenges they face. This information was used to further refine the Action Guide and led to the draft Action Guide 3.0. Over the course of the project, NQF benefitted from working with Field Testing Groups, who provided an opportunity for multidirectional learning from the local and regional level to the national level. The FTGs allowed NQF to do a deeper dive into learning about measure selection, measure variation, and data source challenges.

The Co-Chairs reflected on the accomplishments and lessons learned, highlighting the diversity of FTGs and the Committee members as a benefit in developing the Action Guide, promoting the Guide, and sustaining it through continued engagement. Dr. Teutsch then asked the Committee and FTGs for their reflections. Participants reiterated the desire to keep the Action Guide up-to-date, with one Committee member suggesting creating an app or interactive version of the Action Guide. Others underscored using local and state data to identify population health patterns and understand how disparities affect data and community partnerships.

Opportunities for Sustaining Engagement on the Action Guide 3.0

Donna Herring reviewed a few opportunities for sustained engagement on the Action Guide. NQF is currently exploring the possibility of an AHRQ and NQF joint TweetChat to engage a broad audience on the Action Guide over the social media platform in mid-August. Ms. Stollenwerk spoke about the Learning Lab from the Health Doers Community. Health Doers is an online community platform with the Network for Regional Health Improvement (NRHI) to support regional, state and local collaboratives working to improve health and healthcare. Health Doers is hosting monthly “Learning Labs” to facilitate bridging healthcare and community transformation. The next Learning Lab is on July 19 from 12pm-1:15pm EST and will focus on using the Action Guide. Committee members expressed support for sustaining the Action Guide and a space for communities to collaborate on population health improvement. Committee members stressed the importance of a network structure for population health improvement.

Future Population Health Improvement Work

Dr. Wilson set the context for future population health improvement work at NQF. She highlighted the insights gained from the Committee and FTGs at the April 2016 in-person meeting, namely gaps in measures and data sources, with measures being driven by the data available instead of the data needed. Dr. Wilson spoke about NQF's work in convening multistakeholders to endorse and select measures for use, and NQF's Strategic Plan to drive measurement that matters to improve the quality, safety, and affordability of healthcare. Next, Dr. Wilson highlighted examples of population health measurement initiatives and data sources. In future work, NQF proposed exploring available data sources and identifying data and innovative ways to develop measures needed for a future state of robust endorsed population health measures.

Some Committee members discussed doing more with currently available data; for example, combining data from multiple sources, including unconventional sources like police departments and school systems, and repurposing it. The Committee discussed assessing measures in use and understanding how to get to better measures that drive population health improvement. Participants debated whether this direction would be duplicative of other frameworks and national initiatives, like the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS) - a framework focused on measures to determine population health outcomes and community well-being. Some noted that the NCVHS framework is higher level, but the NQF proposal could potentially tap into communities in the field.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Two public comments were made: one expressing support for focusing on disparities in the NQS and another on links to the private sector and employers in the Guide. Committee members acknowledged the need for different sectors to be engaged in population health improvement, and noted the challenges in bridging the language of the business community for return on investment with the language of population health.

Next Steps

Dr. Teutsch encouraged everyone on the call to continue to collaborate across sectors with partner organizations to improve population health; to share, promote and use the Action Guide, and to continue to engage with NQF. Ms. Ibarra identified opportunities for continued engagement with NQF on related projects: the Health and Well-Being Project to review measures for endorsement related to community-level indicators of health and disease, health-related behaviors and practices to promote healthy living, modifiable social, economic, and environmental determinants of health, and primary prevention screening; the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Quality Project that is making recommendations to address gaps in HCBS quality measures; the Disparities project providing a cross-cutting emphasis on healthcare disparities across all of NQF's work, and the MAP Medicaid project to identify measures to advance the National Quality Strategy priorities.

Adjourn

Dr. Teutsch, Dr. Bender, and NQF Staff expressed their sincere thanks to the Committee and FTGs for their robust discussion and participation throughout the project.

Appendix A: Committee, Field Testing Group, and NQF Team Member Attendance

Population Health Framework Committee Member Attendance
Kaye Bender, Public Health Accreditation Board (Committee Co-Chair)
Steven M. Teutsch, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health (Committee Co-Chair)
Georges C. Benjamin, American Public Health Association
Scott D. Berns, National Institute for Children's Health Quality
Kevin L. Bowman, Anthem, Inc.
Debra Burns, Minnesota Department of Health
Anne De Biasi, Trust for America's Health
Susan L. Freeman, America's Essential Hospitals
Shelley B. Hirschberg, Leadership Coach & Social Entrepreneur
Keith Kosel, Vizient, Inc.
Doris Lotz, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
J. Lloyd Michener, Duke University Medical Center
Jeremy Sanders, Common Table Health Alliance
David Stevens, Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University
Matthew Stiefel, Kaiser Permanente
Julie Trocchio, Catholic Health Association of the United States

Population Health Framework Field Testing Group Member Attendance
Laura Ross-White, Community Services Council of Greater Tulsa
Rebecca Abraham, Designing a Strong and Healthy NY (DASH-NY)
Torney Smith, Empire Health Foundation
Judith M. Crabtree, Kanawha Coalition for Community Health Improvement
Brenda Grant, Kanawha Coalition for Community Health Improvement
Melissa D. Cullum, Geneva Tower Health Collaborative
Beth Roszatycki, Michigan Health Improvement Alliance
Cynthia H. Andrews, Oberlin Community Services and the Institute for eHealth Equity
Silas Buchanan, Oberlin Community Services and the Institute for eHealth Equity
Byron Hunter, The University of Chicago Medical Center

Population Health Framework NQF Project Team Member Attendance
Marcia Wilson, Senior Vice President
Elisa Munthali, Vice President
Diane Stollenwerk, Consultant
Kim Ibarra, Project Manager
Donna Herring, Project Analyst
Danitza Valdivia, Administrative Manager