



Prevention and Population Health Standing Committee – Post-Comment Web Meeting

The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened the Prevention and Population Health Standing Committee for a web meeting on July 6, 2020, to evaluate one measure from fall 2019 cycle.

Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Meeting Objectives

NQF welcomed the Standing Committee and participants to the web meeting and reviewed the meeting objectives. NQF thanked the Committee members for their continued dedication and time during this pandemic, given the COVID-19 impact on the healthcare enterprise. Committee members each introduced themselves and disclosed any conflicts of interests. There were no recusals or conflicts expressed for NQF #3483.

The vote totals reflect members present and eligible to vote. Quorum was met and maintained for the entirety of the meeting.

Topic Area Introduction and Overview of Evaluation Process

NQF staff provided an overview of the topic area and the current NQF portfolio of endorsed measures. There are currently 32 measures in the Prevention and Population Health Committee's portfolio. Additionally, NQF reviewed the Consensus Development Process (CDP) and the measure evaluation criteria.

Measure Evaluation

During the meeting, the Prevention and Population Health Standing Committee discussed the comments received during the post-evaluation member and public comment period. The objective of the meeting was to revote on the "must-pass" criterion Quality Construct of Composite for measure #3483, where the Committee did not reach consensus in the initial evaluation. NQF staff provided an overview of the process for discussing and revoting on the criterion that did not reach consensus. NQF clarified for the Committee that during the post-comment measure review, the criterion under consideration must exceed 60% Committee votes of "pass" (combined total of High or Medium); otherwise, it fails.

Rating Scale: H – High; M – Medium; L – Low; I – Insufficient; NA – Not Applicable

3483 Adult Immunization Status (National Committee for Quality Assurance)

Measure Steward/Developer Representatives at the Meeting

Lindsey Roth

Standing Committee Votes

- Revoting for the "must-pass" criterion of Quality Construct of Composite was not conducted.

Standing Committee Recommendation for Endorsement: Not Applicable

This composite measure assesses the percentage of adults 19 years of age and older who are up-to-date on recommended routine vaccines for influenza, tetanus, and diphtheria (Td) or tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap), zoster and pneumococcal. During the initial evaluation of this measure on February 18, 2020, the Committee did not reach consensus on the “must-pass” criterion of Quality Construct of Composite. During the post-comment meeting on July 6, the Committee specifically revisited the discussion. The comments received post-evaluation were shared with the Committee prior to the web meeting. Two commenters supported the measure, and one comment did not support endorsement, citing that although the measure is specified for the health plan level, in practice, it could be attributed to individual physicians, which would not capture accurate information.

During the discussion, the Committee noted that the measure is neither an all-or-nothing nor a binomial distribution. The denominator is the total number of recommended vaccines in the population, which could be between two to four based on the population’s age range. Given that some vaccines are intended for different age groups, implementation and improvement of the measure would need to be targeted for the applicable population. The Committee also mentioned that comparable results of this measure across health plans that also include Medicaid would be a challenge. For the composite rate, there was an 11-point difference between plans in the 25th percentile and plans in the 75th percentile for Medicare plans, and 7 and 8 points for commercial and Medicaid plans, respectively.

The developer responded and explained that it had revisited the usefulness of the composite rate as constructed and based on input from NCQA’s Committee on Performance Measurement (CPM), it has decided to remove the composite rate from its portfolio, and the four individual vaccine rates for influenza, Td/Tdap, herpes zoster, and pneumococcal vaccination will continue to be reported. The developer asked if the measure could be split into four components at this point in the process, and NQF staff responded this was not an option. It was confirmed with the developer during the web meeting that they were not seeking endorsement on the composite measure, and therefore a revote from the Committee was not needed.

Public Comment

No public or NQF member comments were provided during the web meeting specific to measure #3483.

Next Steps

The status of this measure will be updated in the draft report. NQF staff will follow up with NCQA at a future date to determine if it is interested in submitting the individual vaccine measures for consideration of endorsement.