



### Prevention and Population Health Standing Committee Spring 2020 Post-Comment Web Meeting

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The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened the Prevention and Population Health Standing Committee for a web meeting on October 6, 2020, to review and discuss comments received during the post-evaluation public and member comment period for the spring 2020 review cycle.

#### Welcome and Review of Meeting Objectives

NQF welcomed the Standing Committee and introduced the NQF Prevention and Population Health project team. Sheri Winsper, Senior Vice President, Quality Measurement at NQF introduced herself to the Standing Committee and thanked them for their work on these measures. Nicole Williams, NQF director, reviewed the meeting agenda and called attendance for Standing Committee members.

#### Consideration, Review and Discussion of Measure-Specific Comments

##### Measure #0032, Cervical Cancer Screening, National Committee for Quality Assurance

Ms. Williams reviewed measure #0032 *Cervical Cancer Screening*, including a brief description of the measure and comment received from the American Geriatrics Society (AGS). The commenter suggested reconsideration of the current exclusion criteria to include women age 65 and older, due to the increasing number of women age 65 and older who have new sexual partners. Additionally, the commenter stated that there is a gap in testing for many older adults who have aged out of recommendations, which disproportionately impacts Black and Brown communities. Lastly, the commenter stated that older women and especially those that have not been screened when younger remain at risk for cervical cancer and associated mortality. The measure developer, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)'s response to the comment was also noted. The developer mentioned that the specifications are based on current recommendations from the United States Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) and specifically the recommendations suggest not to screen for women aged 65 and older if they have received adequate prior screening, even if they report having a new sexual partner. The Committee acknowledged that the measure specifications align with and follow the current USPSTF recommendations for cervical cancer screening. Additional changes to the measure specifications as indicated by the commenter would first require changes to the USPSTF recommendations first.

One member requested further explanation for how to address those patients who had not been screened adequately or at all prior to age 65. The measure developer clarified that the measure is focused on preventative care; therefore measuring patients age 65 or older would likely need to be a different measure, agreeing with the clinical perspective but noting the small number of patients that would be identified for meeting that criteria. The Committee further discussed the risk of cervical cancer for older women and the patients that are ignored by the measure may send a specific message to clinicians indicating there isn't a risk when in fact there could be. The USPSTF review cycle was discussed and the measure developer mentioned their awareness of guideline changes and would note these suggestions at the appropriate time.

Please see the [comment table](#) for the full comment and NCQA response.

**Measure #0509, Diagnostic Imaging: Reminder System for Screening Mammograms, American College of Radiology**

Ms. Williams reviewed measure #0509 *Diagnostic Imaging: Reminder System for Screening Mammograms*, including a brief description of the measure and the two comments received from AGS and American College of Radiology (ACR). The comment received from AGS supported the Standing Committee's decision to not recommend this measure for endorsement. Specifically, it was stated that as long as data on mammography utilization is being captured, that will be sufficient. AGS furthermore commented that there is currently no way to reliably ascertain if all patients have equal access to reminders and that without back-up measures to ensure that patients are completing mammograms the measure would not benefit the patient population. ACR's comment acknowledged that the measure did not meet NQF's must-pass criterion to achieve appropriate empirical validity evidence and plans to reassess the methodology appropriate for establishing validity and reanalyze the data collected. The ACR representative stated the intent to return with an improved version of this measure for reconsideration. There was no additional discussion among the committee. For complete comments, please see the [comment table](#).

**NQF Member and Public Comment**

No NQF member or public comments were provided.

**Next Steps / Committee Timeline**

Ms. Williams and Standing Committee co-chairs, Dr. Thomas McInerney and Dr. Amir Qaseem, recognized and thanked several Standing Committee members whose terms were expiring. Chris Dawson, NQF manager, reviewed the upcoming schedule of Consensus Standards Approval Committee (CSAC) meetings, to include the CSAC review period October 13-19, 2020, CSAC Evaluation Meeting November 17-18, 2020, and associated appeals period that will be held November 23 - December 22, 2020. Mr. Dawson reminded the Standing Committee members of the measure to be reviewed for the fall 2020 cycle, #3592 *Global Malnutrition Composite Score*. Lastly, Mr. Dawson reviewed the fall 2020 meeting schedule and associated contact information for the Prevention and Population Health project team.