



NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

Driving measurable health
improvements together

Memo

March 30, 2021

To: NQF members

From: NQF staff

Re: Primary Care and Chronic Illness Fall 2020 Technical Report

Background

This report reflects the review of measures in the Primary Care and Chronic Illness project. Measures in this portfolio target the complexity of primary care and chronic illnesses to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and management of conditions. Measures in this review cycle included measures targeting patient-reported assessment of primary care, pneumonia and respiratory infections, sickle cell anemia, and asthma. The consolidated measure portfolio reflects the importance of caring for chronic illness in primary care settings.

The 23-person Primary Care and Chronic Illness Standing Committee reviewed four newly submitted measures and three measures undergoing maintenance. Six were recommended for endorsement, and the Standing Committee did not reach consensus for the remaining measure.

Recommended Measures:

- **NQF #0058** Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis (AAB) (National Committee for Quality Assurance)
- **NQF #0069** Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (National Committee for Quality Assurance)
- **NQF #3166** Antibiotic Prophylaxis Among Children with Sickle Cell Anemia (University of Michigan)
- **NQF #3568** Person-Centered Primary Care Measure PRO-PM (American Board of Family Medicine/Virginia Commonwealth University)
- **NQF #3595** Hydroxyurea Use Among Children with Sickle Cell Anemia (University of Michigan)
- **NQF #3599** Pediatric Asthma Emergency Department Use (Albert Einstein College of Medicine /University of California San Francisco)

Consensus Not Reached:

- **NQF #3532** Discouraging the routine use of occupational and/or supervised physical therapy after carpal tunnel release (American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons)

The Standing Committee requests comments on all measures, but specifically for the measures where consensus was not reached.

NQF Member and Public Commenting

NQF members and the public are encouraged to provide comments via the online commenting tool on the draft report as a whole, or on the specific measures evaluated by the Primary Care and Chronic Illness Standing Committee.

Please note that commenting concludes on April 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm ET—no exceptions.