



Renal Standing Committee – Post-Comment Web Meeting

The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened a public web meeting for the Renal Standing Committee on June 23, 2020.

Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Web Meeting Objectives

Samuel Stolpe, PharmD, MPH, NQF senior director, welcomed participants to the web meeting. Dr. Stolpe provided an overview of the meeting objectives and conducted the Committee roll call. The Committee co-chairs, Constance Anderson, BSN, MBA, and Lorien Dalrymple, MD, MPH, welcomed the Committee to the call.

Review and Discuss Public Comments Received

Dr. Stolpe briefly reviewed the fall 2019 measure, NQF #2979: *The Standardized Transfusion Ratio for Dialysis Facilities*. This measure was recommended for endorsement by the Standing Committee during the fall 2019 cycle. Dr. Stolpe also provided a summary of the Committee discussion on this measure from the fall 2019 cycle. He reported that NQF received one comment on this measure from one NQF member organization during the 60-day extended commenting period. The comment outlined the following concerns:

- The commenter highlighted concerns associated with attribution. They noted that the dialysis facilities lack adequate information to determine if transfusions occurred at the hospital.
- The comment also noted that while dialysis facilities can influence anemia, other measures may be more appropriate to capture this.
- The comment called into question the reliability of the measure, especially for smaller facilities.

Renal standing committee co-chair Constance Anderson facilitated the Standing Committee discussion in response to the concerns highlighted in the comment. The Committee discussed the real-time visibility that dialysis facilities have on transfusions. The Committee also reviewed the reliability of the measure and recognized some limitations. However, the Committee members were comfortable that this was discussed at length and adequately addressed during the fall 2019 measure evaluation meeting. The Committee also noted the exclusion of Medicare Advantage patients and this was a concern that was discussed with the developer during the original deliberations. After limited discussion between Committee members that emphasized the extent to which the commenter's concerns had already been discussed, they reaffirmed their original conclusions and recommendation for endorsement.

Public Comment

No public or NQF member comments were provided during the post-comment web meeting.

Next Steps

Tejaswini Vemuganti, MPH, NQF Analyst, reviewed next steps. The Committee will meet again in January 2020 for the Fall 2020 Orientation web meeting. Ms. Vemuganti also informed the Committee that the CSAC would consider the Committee's endorsement recommendations during its November 17-18, 2020 meeting.