



TO: Consensus Standards Approval Committee (CSAC)

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RE: Renal Member Voting Results

DA: September 3, 2015

The CSAC will review recommendations from the Renal project at its September 8 conference call. This serves as an addendum to the previous memo and contains the updated voting results as of the ending of the NQF member voting period on September 2, 2015.

NQF MEMBER VOTING RESULTS

All of the recommended measures were approved with 80% approval or higher. Representatives of nine member organizations voted; no votes were received from the Consumer, Public/Community Health Agency, and Supplier/Industry Councils. Results for each measure are provided below. (Links are provided to the full measure summary evaluation tables.)

NQF Member Council	Voting Organizations	Eligible to Vote	Rate
Consumer	0	37	0%
Health Plan	1	20	5%
Health Professional	3	100	3%
Provider Organizations	1	110	1%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	19	0%
Purchaser	2	20	10%
QMRI	2	80	3%
Supplier/Industry	0	39	0%
All Councils	9	425	3%

Measures Recommended:

[Measure # 0251 Vascular Access—Functional Arteriovenous Fistula \(AVF\) or AV Graft or Evaluation for Placement](#)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%

QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	100%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Measure # 0256 Hemodialysis Vascular Access- Minimizing use of catheters as Chronic Dialysis Access

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	100%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Voting Comments:

- American Society of Pediatric Nephrology: ASPN notes that catheter use is clinically important in some populations, while may not be appropriate in others.

Measure # 0257 Hemodialysis Vascular Access—Maximizing Placement of Arterial Venous Fistula

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%



Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					100%
Average council percentage approval					100%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Voting Comments:

- American Society of Pediatric Nephrology: ASPN does not believe that this measure is not appropriate for pediatric patients at this time.
- Kidney Care Partners: KCP believes that future iterations of the measure should exclude hospice patients and patients with an expected lifespan of <6 months; catheters would be clinically appropriate in these populations. Additionally, we are aware that catheters are becoming an access-to-care issue, whereby it may be difficult for some patients with catheters (appropriately) to receive treatment at some facilities owing to the desire to minimize use of catheters or be penalized by the measure as currently being implemented; excluding patients who appropriately have a catheter in future iterations would address this issue.

Measure # 0318 Peritoneal Dialysis Adequacy Clinical Performance Measure III - Delivered Dose of Peritoneal Dialysis Above Minimum

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	0	1	0	1	0%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	8	1	0	9	89%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					80%
Average council percentage approval					80%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Voting Comments:

- Kidney Care Partners: KCP notes that while the submission forms to NQF note the frequency should be at least every four months, it is not clear that the specifications do so; we believe this should be clarified.

[Measure # 0321 Adult Kidney Disease: Peritoneal Dialysis Adequacy: Solute](#)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	0	0	1	1	
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	8	0	1	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					100%
Average council percentage approval					100%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

[Measure # 1423 Minimum spKt/V for Pediatric Hemodialysis Patients](#)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					100%
Average council percentage approval					100%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

[Measure # 1424 Monthly Hemoglobin Measurement for Pediatric Patients](#)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%

Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	100%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Measure # 1425 Measurement of nPCR for Pediatric Hemodialysis Patients

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	100%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Measure # 1460 Bloodstream Infection in Hemodialysis Outpatients

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	2	1	0	3	67%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%

QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	8	1	0	9	89%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	93%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Voting Comments:

- Kidney Care Partners: KCP supports the unadjusted measure.

Measure # 1662 Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) Inhibitor or Angiotensin Receptor Blocker (ARB) Therapy

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	100%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Measure # 1667 Pediatric Kidney Disease: ESRD Patients Receiving Dialysis: Hemoglobin Level < 10g/dL

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%

Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	100%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

[Measure # 2594 Optimal End Stage Renal Disease Starts](#)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	2	1	0	3	67%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	8	1	0	9	89%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)	100%				
Average council percentage approval	93%				

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Voting Comments:

- Kidney Care Partners: KCP acknowledges that this team/population/integrated-system/health plan level measure is an important and conceptually appropriate measure, but believes it is only feasible in fully integrated delivery care systems or large physician groups. As constructed, the measure cannot be applied to dialysis facilities, or even ESCOs, because neither includes CKD patients. While the clinician/team level specified in the measure (i.e., the nephrology practice) could be applied, sufficient patient volumes will be an issue. Specifically, the number of patients starting ESRD care within a practice within the defined 12-month period of time might not be sufficient to provide statistically valid data. Likewise, the measure doesn't account for the fact that approximately 40% of patients have not yet been seen by the nephrologist they will be assigned to at the time of dialysis initiation. Additionally, we recommend that the developer consider three exclusions addressing scenarios in which a permanent access may not be appropriate in future iterations of the measure. These three groups represent a small

number of patients cumulatively, but they should nevertheless be appropriately excluded: 1) Patients with a limited life expectancy, where not placing a permanent access may be more consistent with the patient's goals; 2) Patients who are uncertain whether they wish to pursue long-term treatment and desire a time-limited trial of dialysis; and 3) Patients with acute kidney injury without prior CKD who ultimately don't recover renal function; these patients will likely use a catheter for their first treatment, and it is appropriate to wait up to four months to see if they will recover function before pursuing permanent access. Finally, we have identified three potential unintended consequences that should be closely monitored. 1) There could be some "misuse" or misrepresentation of an "optimal start". For instance, patients who have not received appropriate pre-ESRD care might be persuaded to acutely start peritoneal dialysis in the hospital, and then be kept on this course so as to improve the measured entity's performance. 2) The measure excludes patients with a single needle in the AVF that have blood return via their catheter. This could incentivize premature insertion of both needles for the first treatment, leading to damage of immature AVFs. Catheters could then be used in subsequent treatments, without impacting measure performance. 3) The measure will likely penalize providers caring for a disproportionate percentage of patients with low socioeconomic status, since these individuals most often have not seen a nephrologist prior to beginning treatment; safety net providers may be inappropriately penalized.

Measure # 2701 Avoidance of Utilization of High Ultrafiltration Rate (≥ 13 ml/kg/hour)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving ($>60\%$)					100%
Average council percentage approval					100%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Measure # 2704 Minimum Delivered Peritoneal Dialysis Dose

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					100%
Average council percentage approval					100%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Voting Comments:

- Kidney Care Partners: We recommend the frequency be clarified in the individual measures, so do so for the composite as well.

Measure # 2706 Pediatric Peritoneal Dialysis Adequacy: Achievement of Target Kt/V

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	1	0	0	1	100%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	9	0	0	9	100%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					100%
Average council percentage approval					100%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Voting Comments:

- Kidney Care Partners: It is not clear from the Draft Report for Voting that the frequency has been clarified as recommended; we again recommend this clarification.

Measures Recommended with Reserve Status:

Measure #0249 Hemodialysis Adequacy Clinical Performance Measure III: Hemodialysis Adequacy--HD Adequacy—Minimum Delivered Hemodialysis Dose

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	0	1	0	1	0%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	8	1	0	9	89%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					80%
Average council percentage approval					80%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

Measure # 0255 Measurement of Serum Phosphorus Concentration

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	0	1	0	1	0%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	8	1	0	9	89%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					80%
Average council percentage approval					80%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

[Measure # 0323 Adult Kidney Disease: Hemodialysis Adequacy: Solute](#)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	3	0	0	3	100%
Provider Organizations	0	1	0	1	0%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	2	0	0	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	8	1	0	9	89%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					80%
Average council percentage approval					80%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)

[Measure # 1454 Proportion of patients with hypercalcemia](#)

Measure Council	Yes	No	Abstain	Total Votes	% Approval*
Consumer	0	0	0	0	
Health Plan	1	0	0	1	100%
Health Professional	2	0	1	3	100%
Provider Organizations	0	1	0	1	0%
Public/Community Health Agency	0	0	0	0	
Purchaser	2	0	0	2	100%
QMRI	1	0	1	2	100%
Supplier/Industry	0	0	0	0	
All Councils	6	1	2	9	86%
Percentage of councils approving (>60%)					80%
Average council percentage approval					80%

*equation: Yes/ (Total - Abstain)