

## Housekeeping Reminders

- This is a Zoom meeting with audio and video capabilities:
  - ▣ **Meeting link:** <https://qualityforum-org.zoom.us/j/85747525940?pwd=cklKSk41RGhBN3RqdGhYc2VmSm5jZz09>
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- We encourage you to use the following features
  - ▣ Chat box: to message NQF staff or the group
  - ▣ Raise hand: to be called upon to speak
- We will conduct roll call once the meeting begins
- If you are experiencing technical issues, please contact the NQF project team at [raguidance@qualityforum.org](mailto:raguidance@qualityforum.org)



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# Best Practices for Developing and Testing Risk Adjustment Models

*Option Period Web Meeting #4*

*October 24, 2022*

*This project is funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under contract HHSM-500-2017-00060I – 75FCMC20F0001 - Best Practices for Developing and Testing Risk Adjustment Models.*

# Agenda



## Technical Expert Panel (TEP) Members

- **Philip Alberti, PhD** (Co-Chair)
- **Karen Joynt Maddox, MD, MPH** (Co-Chair)
- Arlene Ash, PhD
- Susannah Bernheim, MD, MHS
- Melissa Castora-Binkley, PhD, MA, PMP
- Lukejohn Day, MD
- Marc Elliott, PhD, MA
- Rachel Harrington, PhD
- Vincent Liu, MD, MS
- Danielle Lloyd, MPH
- John Martin, PhD, MPH
- Shalini Prakash, MS
- Sandra Richardson, MS
- Clarke Ross, DPA
- David Shahian, MD
- Cristie Upshaw Travis, MSHHA
- Janice Tufte

## Federal Liaisons

- Andy Frankos-Rey, MA, CMCS/CMS
- Craig Caplin, PhD, HRSA
- David Nyweide, PhD, CMMI/CMS
- Joel Andress, PhD, CCSQ/CMS
- Lok Wong Samson, PhD, ASPE
- Maushami (Mia) DeSoto, PhD, HRSA
- Rachael Zuckerman, PhD, ASPE
- Sarah Gaillot, PhD, CM/CMS
- Shafa Al-Showk, PhD, CM/CMS

## Meeting Objectives

- Discuss and adjudicate public comments on Technical Guidance
- Finalize the Technical Guidance

# **Review & Discuss Public Comments on Technical Guidance**

## Responses to Public Comments

- [screenshare public comment memo]



# Opportunity for Public Comment

# Next Steps

## Next Steps

- NQF staff will finalize the Technical Guidance
- Final updated Technical Guidance will be posted on December 21, 2022

## Project Contact Info

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- NQF phone: 202-783-1300
- Project page:
  - [https://www.qualityforum.org/Risk\\_Adjustment\\_Guidance.aspx](https://www.qualityforum.org/Risk_Adjustment_Guidance.aspx)
- SharePoint site:
  - <https://share.qualityforum.org/portfolio/DevelopingandTestingRisk/SitePages/Home.aspx>

# THANK YOU.

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# Appendix

## NQF Project Team

- Tricia Elliott, Senior Managing Director
- Matthew Pickering, PharmD, Senior Director
- Monika Harvey, MBA, PMP, Project Manager
- Hannah Ingber, MPH, Manager
- Simone Bernateau, Analyst
- Tristan Wind, BS, ACHE-SA, Analyst
- Taroon Amin, PhD, MPH, Consultant

## CMS Staff

- Laura de Nobel, JD, RN, TO COR, DPMS
- Sophia Chan, PhD, MPH, DVIQR
- Helen Dollar-Maples, RN, MSN, Director, DPMS
- Nidhi Singh-Shah, MPH, Deputy Director, DPMS
- Gequincia Polk, MPA, IDIQ COR, DPMS
- Marsha Smith, MD, MPH, Medical Officer, DPMS



## During the Option Period, the Technical Guidance underwent a series of modifications across several key areas:

- Added specificity to the evidence standard for risk factor inclusion in the conceptual model (pg. 21);
- Added specificity and guidance with respect to “locus of control” and “meaningfully influence” (pg. 24);
- Added guidance for determining bias of a factor that is not accessible in a data source of sufficient quality (pg. 31);
- Increased attention to health equity throughout the guidance and noting the role of risk adjustment within efforts to improve health equity (pg. 3, 17, 41, 45);
- Added specificity to the guidance sections of calibration and stratification, including minimum variable sets for each (pg. 37 & 40);
- Changes to the minimum standards to reflect the above-listed guidance modifications (pg. 18);
- Update to the NQF Policy section (pg. 44);
- Updated the Executive Summary and Conclusion (pgs. 3 & 46); and
- Added Stakeholder Feedback as Appendix F (pg. 97).

## NQF Public and Member Comment Approach

- NQF updated the Technical Guidance following a series of focus groups and web meetings with the TEP and Federal Liaisons.
- NQF posted the Technical Guidance for public comment from August 31, 2022 to September 21, 2022.
- NQF also sent out several external announcements about the public comment period across its network, including those who have signed up for project alerts. NQF's additional outreach included:
  - ▣ MIDS C3 forum listserv
  - ▣ Measures Management System newsletter
  - ▣ Focus Group Participants
  - ▣ Measure and Instrument Development and Support C3 Forum

## Key Themes from Public Comments

- NQF received **nine** comments from **four** organizations:
  - ▣ Acumen, LLC.
  - ▣ America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)
  - ▣ Kidney Care Partners
  - ▣ Yale University School of Medicine
- Also received comments from two TEP members
- Key themes identified:
  - ▣ Provide clarity
  - ▣ Requirements for Consensus Development Process (CDP)
  - ▣ Stratification guidance
  - ▣ Burden to developers
  - ▣ Stakeholders
- Impacted Sections:
  - ▣ Executive Summary
  - ▣ Core Principles
  - ▣ Technical Guidance Overview
  - ▣ Minimum Standards
  - ▣ Conceptualizing the Model
  - ▣ Identifying and Selecting Potential Data Sources and Variables
  - ▣ Empirically Testing Risk Factors
  - ▣ Stratification