

# NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

## CALL FOR IMPLEMENTATION COMMENTS

### SURGICAL CONSENSUS STANDARDS ENDORSEMENT MAINTENANCE

The Surgical Consensus Standards Endorsement Maintenance project includes maintenance review of [43 surgical consensus standards](#). As a part of the maintenance review process, NQF is seeking comments from the public and NQF Members on the implementation and use of these measures.

NQF is particularly interested in all stakeholders' experiences with the measures including:

- Have you used this measure for any of the following purposes?
  1. quality improvement (internal to your specific organization)
  2. quality improvement with benchmarking (external benchmarking to multiple organizations)
  3. professional certification or recognition program
  4. regulatory and accreditation programs
  5. payment program
  6. public reporting
  7. other \_\_\_\_\_
- Please provide feedback regarding the usefulness of the measure for the purposes noted above.
- If the measure is being used for public reporting (i.e., reporting to the public at large), please indicate where it is being used. Please provide any information you have on the usefulness of this information to end-users (e.g., including consumers, health plans, and delivery systems).
- Have you encountered challenges while implementing this measure? If yes, please describe.
  1. problems with measure specifications
  2. challenges in obtaining the necessary data

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3. lack of harmonization with related measures (same measure focus or same target population)
4. difficulties interpreting or explaining the performance results
5. difficulties obtaining reliable and valid comparisons of performance
6. unintended consequences
7. other: \_\_\_\_\_

- Do you have suggestions for how this measure could be improved? Is there a better measure that should be considered in place of this measure? If so, provide details.
- Should this measure receive endorsement for another three years? Please provide rationale.

Once the Measure Developers have an opportunity to review and respond to the comments, the comments will be posted on the project web page and shared with the Steering Committee during their review of the measures.

## COMMENTING GUIDELINES

**Comments must be submitted using the online submission process by Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at 6:00 pm ET.**

Please note the following about commenting:

- all comments should be submitted using the online submission process
- NQF will post and take into consideration only those comments received by the above deadline(s).
- NQF reserves the right to identify and remove any objectionable content.
- NQF is not responsible for the views and opinions expressed in posted comments.

Supporting documents related to your comments may be submitted by e-mail to [surgery@qualityforum.org](mailto:surgery@qualityforum.org) with “*Surgery Maintenance*” in the subject line and your

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contact information in the body of the e-mail. Any supporting documents must be received by the close of the comment period.

If you have any questions, please contact, Melinda Murphy, RN, MS, NE-BC, at 202-531-0550 or Alexis Forman, MPH, at 202-783-1300 or via e-mail at [surgery@qualityforum.org](mailto:surgery@qualityforum.org). Thank you for your assistance with this project!