

# Surgery Endorsement Maintenance

## November 21, 2011

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The project has:

- evaluated newly submitted measures and provided maintenance of surgical measures endorsed by NQF before June 2008\*;
- been done in two phases;
  - Phase I – cardiac surgery-related, esophageal resection, VTE prophylaxis and blood transfusion
  - **Phase II** – general surgery and surgical specialties
- considered potential for harmonization, replacement or expansion of related measures

*\*Measures endorsed by NQF after June 2008 will be evaluated in a later project.*

- Member and public comment period for Phase II closed on October 26
- Comments have been addressed by developers and Steering Committee
- Voting opens today with 18 endorsed measures recommended for continued endorsement and 6 new measures recommended for initial endorsement.
- Draft report and comment table available on the [project page](#)

## The webinar

- Provides opportunity for clarification prior to voting
- Provides information about requirements of developers and Steering Committees:
  - Measure submission requirements
  - Maintenance of endorsed measures
  - Endorsement of new measures
  - Harmonization / Best in Class

- Continued endorsement of 18 measures
  - Placement of 1 measure in Reserve Status
- Endorsement of 6 new measures
- Measure topics:
  - CABG
  - Prophylaxis
  - Cardiac
  - Appendectomy
  - Vascular
  - General
  - Ophthalmology
  - Orthopedics
  - Pediatrics

Committee focus in both Phases I and II

- Clarity of specifications
- Current evidence & relationship to outcomes
- Failure to provide disparities & public reporting
- Impact on quality
- Placement in reserve status
- Related and Competing Measures
- Use of proprietary registries

- 135 comments received from 29 organizations/individuals
- Themes
  - Expanding the level of assessment to include other levels, mainly clinician
  - “Topped out” measures
  - Measures for use in Ambulatory Surgery Centers
  - Encouragement to recommend measures 0364, 0367, 0368, 1531 and 1548
- Steering Committee deliberations
- Developer actions
  - Revised specifications for hip and knee arthroplasty measures

- Changes to the measures
  - No changes to the measures were requested by the Committee as a result of comments; however changes to 1550 and 1551 were made by the developer
  - Steering Committee strongly supports concepts underlying two measures not recommended for endorsement, *1531: Follow-up assessment of stroke or death after carotid revascularization* and *1548: Surveillance after endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair (EVAR)*
  - Measures 0364, 0367, 0368 and 1531 have been moved to the addendum report due to a request for reconsideration by the measure developers



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# Questions?