

Surgery Endorsement Maintenance

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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 has closed
- Comments have been addressed by developers and Steering Committee
- Voting opens today with 18 endorsed measures recommended for continued 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
 - Audience Additions?

- Continued endorsement of 18 measures
 - 16 cardiac/CABG related
 - 2 esophageal resection
- Placement of 1 measure in Reserve Status

- Clarity of specifications
- Use of proprietary registries
- “Topped out” measures
- Failure to provide disparities & public reporting
- Impact on quality
- Current evidence & relationship to outcomes

- 35 comments received from 11 organizations/individuals
 - All comments received were from members
- Themes
 - Risk adjustment that obscures patient risk / care variation
 - Measurement at individual clinician level
 - Standardize placement of specification; i.e. age
 - Opposition of placement of 0113 in Reserve Status
 - Encouragement to continue endorsement of 0124
- Steering Committee deliberations
- Developer actions

- Changes to the measures
 - 6 measures changed to include age in denominator
 - 6 measures affected