



Surgery

BACKGROUND

The surgery portfolio includes more than 60 measures that address surgical care for a variety of surgeries that occur in the inpatient, outpatient, and ambulatory surgical settings.

The Surgery Standing Committee oversees NQF's portfolio of surgery measures for morbidity and mortality, perioperative safety, general surgery, and a range of specialties like cardiac, cardiothoracic, colorectal, ocular, orthopedic, urogynecologic, and vascular surgery.

COMMITTEE CHARGE

The Surgery Standing Committee evaluates newly submitted measures and measures undergoing maintenance review against NQF's standard [measure evaluation criteria](#) and makes recommendations for endorsement.

The Committee's other responsibilities include:

- Oversee the portfolio of measures
- Identify and evaluate competing and related measures
- Identify opportunities for harmonization of similar measures
- Recommend measure concepts for development to address gaps in the portfolio
- Provide advice or technical expertise about the subject to other committees (i.e., cross-cutting committees or the Measure Applications Partnership)
- Ensure input is obtained from relevant stakeholders
- Review draft documents
- Recommend specific measures and research priorities to NQF members for consideration under the Consensus Development Process (CDP)

To learn more about the work of NQF's CDP standing committees, review our [Committee Guidebook](#).

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The Surgery Standing Committee is made up of no more than 25 individuals.

Terms

Standing committee members are initially appointed to a two- or three-year term. Each term thereafter is a two-year term, with Committee members permitted to serve two consecutive terms. After serving two terms, the Committee member must step down for one full term (two years) before becoming eligible for reappointment.

Participation on the Committee requires a significant time commitment.

To apply, individuals should be available to participate in all currently scheduled calls/meetings. Over the course of the Surgery fall cycle 2019 and spring cycle 2020, additional calls may be scheduled or rescheduled based on project needs; new dates will be set based on most of the Committee's availability.

Committee participation includes:

- Orientation webinar (2 hours)
- Identify and disclose potential biases (real or perceived)
- Review all measure submission forms (approximately 2 hours per measure)
- Complete all surveys and evaluations
- Attend all scheduled evaluation meetings. These may be in-person meetings (1-2 full days in Washington, DC) or a series of webinars (typically 2 hours each)
- Lead discussion for assigned measures on webinars or in-person meetings; actively participate in the committee's discussion; vote on ratings and endorsement recommendations for all measures
- Review meeting summaries and/or technical draft reports
- Review public and NQF member comments received on technical draft reports and participate on post-comment webinar (2 hours)
- Complete additional measure evaluations by conference call or webinar, if needed
- Participate in additional calls or webinars, as needed
- Present measures and committee discussion on conference calls, webinars, and other meetings, as needed

Table of Scheduled Meeting Dates for Surgery Fall 2019 Cycle

| Meeting | Date/Time |
|---|---|
| Committee Orientation Meeting (2 hours) | January 14, 2020, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm ET |
| Committee Measure Evaluation Web Meeting (2 hours) | February 19, 2020, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm ET |
| Committee Post-Comment Web Meeting (2 hours) | May 13, 2020, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm ET |

Meeting dates for the Surgery spring 2020 cycle to be determined.

PREFERRED EXPERTISE AND COMPOSITION

Committee members are selected to ensure representation from a variety of stakeholders, including consumers, purchasers, providers, professionals, plans, suppliers, community and public health, and healthcare quality experts. Because NQF attempts to represent a diversity of stakeholder perspectives on committees, a limited number of individuals from each of these stakeholder groups can be seated onto a committee.

NQF is seeking up to nine Committee members with relevant expertise in:

- Case managers/social workers
- General surgery
- Health plans
- Individuals with quality improvement expertise (e.g., director of quality)
- Patient and caregiver representatives
- Pediatric surgery
- Surgical nurses (pre-op, peri-op, post-op)

Please review the NQF [Conflict of Interest policy](#) to learn about how NQF identifies potential conflict of interest. All potential Committee members must disclose any current and past activities prior to and during the nomination process in order to be considered.

CONSIDERATION AND SUBSTITUTION

Priority will be given to nominations from NQF members when nominee expertise is comparable. Please note that nominations are for an individual, not an organization, so “substitutions” of other individuals are not permitted. Committee members are encouraged to engage colleagues and solicit input from them throughout the process.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Nominations are sought for individuals. Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual has been contacted and is willing to serve.

To nominate an individual to the Surgery Committee, please **submit** the following information:

- A completed [online nomination form](#), including:
 - A brief statement of interest
 - A brief description of nominee expertise highlighting experience relevant to the committee
 - A short biography (maximum 100 words), highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above
 - Curriculum vitae or list of relevant experience (e.g., publications) *up to 20 pages*
- A completed disclosure of interest form. This will be requested upon your submission of the nominations form for committees actively seeking nominees.
- Confirmation of availability to participate in currently scheduled calls and meeting dates. Committees or projects actively seeking nominees will solicit this information upon submission of the online nomination form.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

All nominations **MUST** be submitted by **6:00 pm ET on October 30, 2019**.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please contact the project team at surgery@qualityforum.org. Thank you for your interest.