



Surgery Standing Committee, Post-Comment Web Meeting

The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened a public web meeting for the Surgery Standing Committee on May 8, 2019.

Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Meeting Objectives

Yetunde Ogungbemi, NQF Project Manager, welcomed the Standing Committee and participants to the web meeting. Melissa Mariñelarena, NQF Senior Director, provided opening remarks and reviewed the meeting objectives: to review, discuss, and provide input on comments submitted during the post-evaluation public and member comment period; to re-vote on two “consensus-not-reached” (CNR) measures; and to discuss related and competing measures.

Discussion of the Comment Submitted

The Committee reviewed the general comment received from the developer regarding the overarching issues described in the post-comment call memo. The issues related to small numerators for the mortality measures, levels of analysis, risk-adjustment for race and ethnicity, score-level validity testing methodology, and the must-pass Use criterion. The Committee upheld its previous decision to recommend the 13 measures for endorsement.

Re-vote on “Consensus-Not-Reached” (CNR) Measures

During the meeting, the Surgery Standing Committee re-voted on the following two measures for which the Committee did not reach consensus on use, usability, and overall suitability of the measure:

- 0114 Risk-Adjusted Postoperative Renal Failure
- 0122 Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for Mitral Valve (MV) Replacement + CABG Surgery

Measure Evaluation Criteria Rating Key: H – High; M – Medium; L – Low; I – Insufficient

0114 Risk-Adjusted Postoperative Renal Failure (Society of Thoracic Surgeons)

Standing Committee Votes

- Use: Pass-10; No Pass-4
- Usability: H-1; M-11; L-2; I-0

Standing Committee Recommendation for Endorsement: Yes-11; No-3

The Standing Committee agreed that the measure met the NQF’s Use criterion and recommended the measure for continued endorsement.

0122 Risk-Adjusted Operative Mortality for Mitral Valve (MV) Replacement + CABG Surgery (Society of Thoracic Surgeons)

Standing Committee Votes

- Use: Pass-11; No Pass-3
- Usability: H-3; M-11; L-0; I-0

Standing Committee Recommendation for Endorsement: Yes-11; No-3

The Standing Committee agreed that the measure met the NQF's Use criterion and recommended the measure for continued endorsement.

Related and Competing Measures Discussion

Ms. Mariñelarena summarized the related measures for measures under review for the Surgery fall 2018 cycle and emphasized the need for harmonization for measures having either the same measure focus and/or the same target audience. The Committee agreed that the related measures add value that outweighs any concern regarding interpretability or burden of data collection.

Public Comment

No public or NQF member comments were provided during the measure evaluation meeting.

Next Steps

Ms. Mariñelarena informed the Committee that their discussion would be updated in the report and that the Committee's recommendations will be presented at the June 5-6, 2019 CSAC meeting.