



WHAT IS THE PROJECT?

Lung cancer is the second-most common cancer in the United States and the leading cause of cancer death. For individuals with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), biomarker screening and targeted therapies are showing progress in improving outcomes and increasing survival rates. However, clinical practice patterns do not always align with current biomarker testing and treatment guidelines. Performance measures related to timely and appropriate biomarker screening and targeted therapies will address gaps in oncology measurement, help ensure that patients with NSCLC receive appropriate treatment, and may lead to improved survival and quality of life.

This NQF Measure Incubator® project is the first step toward facilitating the development of needed performance measures to support timely and appropriate screening and treatment for biomarkers for NSCLC, which will ultimately contribute to improvements in survival and quality of life.

STRATEGY SESSION

NQF convened a Measure Incubator strategy session with a multistakeholder Expert Panel in June 2019. At this meeting, Expert Panelists discussed a range of quality of care issues that contribute to variation between clinical guidelines and clinical practice. The Panel emphasized the importance of timely biomarker screening to ensure that biomarker results are used in a meaningful way to inform care and treatment planning. The Expert Panel identified and prioritized four measure concepts, including two, 2-part measures, that could become performance measures for NSCLC. These concepts span the continuum of care—from biopsy through treatment—and assess the role of medical oncologists, pathologists, and laboratories in ensuring that patients receive evidence-based diagnosis and care. Panelists discussed the data, implementation, and reimbursement challenges that must be overcome to operationalize these measure concepts.

NQF engaged a broad-based stakeholder group in this Measure Incubator project, including individuals with NSCLC, caregivers, clinicians, payers, researchers, data experts, and measure developers.

WHAT IS THE ENVISIONED OUTCOME?

Building on the recommendations from the NQF-convened strategy session, NQF seeks to facilitate the development of one or more measure concepts into fully specified and tested performance measures. NQF will explore funding to support measure development and testing beginning in fall 2019.

This work creates a solid foundation for measures that will improve the care and health outcomes of patients with NSCLC by ensuring that individuals receive timely and appropriate biomarker screening and guideline-based treatment.

NQF is delivering this project through the Measure Incubator with financial support from **Genentech, Inc.** In accordance with the **NQF Measure Incubator Conflict of Interest Principles**, Genentech, Inc. has not influenced the outcomes and activities associated with this project.