



MAP Clinician Workgroup Web Meeting
December 2, 2013 | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm ET

The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened a web meeting of the Measure Application Partnership (MAP) Clinician Workgroup on Monday, December 2, 2013. An online archive of the meeting is available by clicking [here](#).

Workgroup Member Attendance

Mark McClellan, Workgroup Chair	Eugene Nelson; subject matter expert: Population Health
Amy Compton-Phillips, Kaiser Permanente	Ian Corbridge, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Bruce Auerbach, American College of Emergency Physicians	Jim Chase, Minnesota Community Measurement (substitute for Beth Averbeck)
Cheryl DeMars, The Alliance	Joanne Conroy, Association of American Medical Colleges
Cynthia Pellegrini, March of Dimes	Karen Sepucha; subject matter expert: Shared Decision-Making
Darryl Gray, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	Kevin Larsen, Office of the National Coordinator for HIT (ONC)
David Hopkins, Pacific Business Group on Health	Luther Clark; subject matter expert: Disparities
David Seidenwurm, American College of Radiology	Mark Metersky, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement
Diane Padden, American Association of Nurse Practitioners	Paul Casale, American College of Cardiology
Dolores Yanagihara; subject matter expert: Measure Methodologist	Rachel Grob, Center for Patient Partnerships
Eric Whitacre; subject matter expert: Surgical Care	Regina Chell, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), substitute for Kate Goodrich

Welcome and Review of Meeting Objectives

- Dr. Mark McClellan, Workgroup Chair, welcomed the group to the meeting and reviewed the meeting objectives.
 - Review each program under consideration and the uptake of MAP’s 2013 pre-rulemaking recommendations by HHS.
 - Provide input on finalized measures for the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS).
 - Consider whether finalized PQRS measures should also be used for Physician Compare and the Value-Based Payment Modifier.

MAP Pre-Rulemaking Approach

- Ms. Pittman reviewed the updated MAP Measure Selection Criteria and the following overarching changes:
 - Added a preamble to emphasize that the criteria are meant as guidance rather than rules; application should be to measure sets, not individual measures; and focus should be placed on filling important measure gaps and promoting alignment.
 - More consistent use of terminology and formatting.
 - Removal of extraneous content, including the “Response Option” rating scales for each criterion or sub-criterion.
 - Specific criterion changes and edits, including incorporating language highlighting patient and caregiver reported outcomes when assessing program measure sets.
- Ms. Pittman then reviewed the four step pre-rulemaking approach for 2014:
 - Building on MAP’s prior recommendations.
 - Evaluating each finalized program measure set using MAP’s Measure Selection Criteria.
 - Evaluating measures under consideration for what they would add to the program measure sets.
 - Identifying and prioritizing gaps for programs and settings.
- Workgroup members discussed:
 - Exploring methods to further enhance the MAP Measure Selection Criteria to promote better communication amongst all stakeholders who are actively using measures that may not be NQF endorsed.
 - Best approaches to identify and fill measure gaps utilizing the updated MAP Measure Selection Criteria as guidance.

Overview of Programs under Consideration and Uptake Analysis

- Ms. Pittman reviewed the federal programs the Clinician Workgroup will be reviewing during the December pre-rulemaking meeting. A brief overview of the uptake of MAP’s 2013 recommendations by HHS was also presented.
- Workgroup members discussed:
 - The importance of parsimony in the selection of measures under consideration to achieve cross-cutting, quality, and efficiency measures.

Input on Finalized Physician Quality Reporting System Measures and Inclusion in Physician Compare and the Value-Based Payment Modifier

- Ms. Pittman, Mr. Sanchez, and Ms. Ghazinour reviewed and discussed the results of the pre-meeting exercise—a review of currently finalized PQRS measures.
- A measure chart with the preliminary recommendations for each measure reviewed can be found on the [MAP Clinician Workgroup web page](#). These preliminary recommendations will inform deliberations during the December pre-rulemaking meeting.
- These measures were organized and reviewed according to the following conditions: CAHPS, Cancer, Care Coordination, Head Eyes Ears Nose Throat (HEENT), Inflammatory Bowel Disease,

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Infectious Disease, Imaging, Musculoskeletal, Neurological, Obesity, Perinatal and Reproduction, Respiratory, Safety, and Surgery.

- In reviewing measures, the workgroup members reached consensus on measures that had split votes and finalized recommendations on measures to be retained or removed from PQRS and included or excluded in Physician Compare and Value-Based Payment Modifier.
- During this exercise, workgroup members discussed the following:
 - Explore approaches to identifying quality reporting measures that consumers and patients can interpret and utilize easily.
 - Workgroup members again highlighted the need for composite measures that can be drilled down to provide specific measure results, and the importance of outcome measures over process measures.
 - Finally, the workgroup identified measurements gaps, including, but not limited to: patient-centered outcome measures, cross-cutting measures specifically for specialty clinician groups, and measure harmonization.

Opportunity for Public comment

There were two public comments.

- The first commenter suggested having open communication with measure stewards before deciding to remove or exclude a measure from consideration from certain federal programs. The measure stewards could be a great resource to provide information for the workgroup.
- The second commenter expressed concerns about the lack of measures to be reported amongst sub-specialization within specialty clinician groups. The commenter encourages the workgroup to continue to select cross-cutting measures to fill gaps.

Next Steps

- The upcoming MAP Clinician Workgroup meetings are:
 - December 4 – All MAP Web Meeting to review list of measures under consideration.
 - December 18-19 – Clinician Workgroup In-Person Meeting to develop pre-rulemaking input to the MAP Coordinating Committee.