

Meeting Summary

Neurology Workgroup Web Meeting 4

The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened a closed session web meeting for the Neurology Workgroup on July 6, 2020.

Welcome and Review of Web Meeting Objectives

NQF staff and Workgroup co-chairs welcomed participants to the meeting. NQF staff read the antitrust statement and reminded the Workgroup of the voluntary nature of the CQMC and the obligation of all participants to comply with all applicable laws. NQF staff notified Workgroup members that the meeting is being recorded for the purpose of accurately capturing the discussion for meeting minutes and to allow CQMC members to listen to the meeting for a limited time only. The recording will be destroyed as soon as reasonably practical. NQF staff reviewed the following meeting objectives:

- Reminder of current voting survey
- Review of potential neurology measures
- Discuss implementation considerations

Review of Potential Neurology Measures

Functional Status

0425: Functional Status Change for Patients with Lumbar Impairments

Workgroup members shared confusion around how the information gets recorded in terms of plans being able to capture the results. NQF staff shared that the measure developer makes a site available for calculation. Workgroup members noted that if it was available through coding/claims/automated EHR data pulls, it would make the measure more enticing. Another workgroup member noted that there are complexities with the reporting and collecting of the data which may prove to be a challenge. Workgroup members requested clarification regarding whether the measure specifies the individuals must be at least 14 years old with acute back pain or if they must have had back pain for a duration of 14 years. Workgroup members decided to remove this measure from voting consideration.

Transitions of Care

2789: Adolescent Assessment of Preparation for Transition (ADAPT) to Adult-Focused Health Care

NQF staff noted that they were unable to find an example of this measure in use through the CMS measure inventory tool. One workgroup member shared that this is just one of the ways that transition can be properly measured and followed over time and it may not translate to many practices due to the specificity of the survey. Workgroup members decided to remove this measure from voting consideration.

Discuss Implementation Considerations

NQF staff then transitioned discussion to considerations for implementation and adoption around the potential neurology core set measures. A workgroup member noted that for adoption it would be very helpful if the telehealth codes were included in the visit types. Additionally, collaboration with payors and EHR systems to integrate comprehensive templates for neurology as smaller specialties don't necessarily get the same attention when it comes to EHR standardization. These templates could be used to capture the more granular information necessary for measurement and risk adjustment. Additionally, workgroup members noted that it would be valuable to work with the stakeholders in the CQMC once the set is finalized to ensure they get the information disseminated to their audiences.

Next Steps

NQF staff shared that during the next meeting, the workgroup will review voting results and discuss any remaining items. Additionally, Neurology voting results will be taken to the Steering Committee meeting on July 24.