



The Measure Authoring Tool (MAT) is a web-based tool that allows measure developers to create standardized electronic measures (eMeasures). The tool is the first of its kind to offer the measurement community an accessible, non-proprietary way to develop electronic quality measures using a structured and streamlined process.

## Supporting Quality Measurement in an Electronic Environment

The use of health information technology (health IT) is instrumental in achieving national goals of making care safer, more affordable, and better coordinated. Accordingly, it is anticipated that beginning in Fall 2012, all measures submitted for NQF endorsement must include an eMeasure component. The MAT is designed to help meet this need and ultimately support broader aims to improve healthcare quality.

With the MAT, measure developers can more accurately create standardized eMeasures to use across electronic health records (EHRs) and other clinical IT systems. The MAT also can reduce the time required to create new quality measures and convert existing paper-based measures to an EHR-readable format.

eMeasures created with the MAT will be an integral part of a more efficient electronic healthcare system, as they will offer:

- *greater comparability across measures as well as performance and outcomes data;*
- *greater precision regarding what is being measured and what data are necessary—meaning more effective measurement and ability to improve performance; and*
- *better care delivery through access to more comparable and accurate performance information.*

## Advancing High-Value Healthcare

The MAT offers key stakeholders in the quality and health IT community—measure developers, clinical system vendors, and providers, among others—an unprecedented opportunity to develop and support precise performance measures in real time. These measures will be essential in capturing, reporting on, and ultimately improving healthcare quality and efficiency.

NQF welcomes feedback on the tool; user input will be instrumental in shaping future versions of the MAT.. To learn more about the MAT or to register for a user account, visit the [NQF website](#). For specific inquiries, please contact [MATSupport@qualityforum.org](mailto:MATSupport@qualityforum.org).

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The National Quality Forum (NQF) is a nonprofit organization that operates under a three-part mission to improve the quality of American healthcare by:

- Building consensus on national priorities and goals for performance improvement and working in partnership to achieve them;
- Endorsing national consensus standards for measuring and publicly reporting on performance; and
- Promoting the attainment of national goals through education and outreach programs.