

Measure Developer Webinar



NATIONAL
QUALITY FORUM

Monday, August 17, 2015

Agenda Items

- Welcome and Introductions
- MAP Pre-rulemaking
- New Maintenance Restructuring Updates
- Updates to Electronic Clinical Quality Measure Process (eCQM)
- NQF 101: Introduction to measure submission for new developers
- Q & A
- Next Steps

2015-2016 Measure Partnership Applications (MAP) Pre-Rulemaking

Fall Web Meetings

- Clinician Workgroup - **October 8**
- Hospital Workgroup - **October 13**
- PAC/LTC Workgroup - **October 16**
- Coordinating Committee - **November 13**
- Dual Eligible Beneficiaries Workgroup – **January 2016**
 - *Reviews recommendations from other groups and provide cross-cutting input during the second round of public comment*

In-Person Meetings

- Clinician Workgroup - **December 9-10**
- PAC/LTC Workgroup - **December 14-15**
- Hospital Workgroup - **December 16-17**
- Coordinating Committee- **January 26-27**

Revisions to Maintenance of Endorsement evaluations

- Begins with the next group of Endorsement Maintenance projects
- Reduces the effort for developers, Committees and NQF staff for maintenance of endorsement
- Relies on the data that had already been submitted to NQF during the prior evaluation and annual updates
 - Focuses on updates where there is new information
 - Maintenance “check list”
- Changes the emphasis of the evaluation for maintenance measures
 - Does NOT change the criteria

Criteria #1: Importance to measure and report

Current State	Future State
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence – Quantity, quality, consistency (QQC)• Established link for process measures with outcomes	DECREASED EMPHASIS: Require measure developer to attest to current evidence; Standing Committee to affirm no change in evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gap – opportunity for improvement, variation, quality of care across providers	INCREASED EMPHASIS: current performance, gap in care and variation

Criteria #2: Scientific Acceptability

Current State	Future State
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measure specifications	NO CHANGE: Require updated specifications
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reliability• Validity (including risk-adjustment)	DECREASED EMPHASIS: If prior testing adequate, no need for additional testing at maintenance with certain exceptions (e.g., change in data source, level of analysis, or setting) Must address the questions for SDS Trial Period

Criteria #3-4: Feasibility and Usability and Use

Current State	Future State
Feasibility	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Measure feasible, including eMeasure feasibility	NO CHANGE: Implementation issues may be more prominent
Usability and Use	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use: used in accountability applications and public reporting	INCREASED EMPHASIS: Much greater focus on measure use and usefulness, including both impact and unintended consequences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Usability: impact and unintended consequences	



Q&A

Updates to Electronic Clinical Quality Measure Process (eCQM)



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Review of eCQM Submission Process

- Four different scenarios for eCQM Submission
 - *De Novo* - Brand new eCQMs; must adhere to NQF's measure submission and testing process
 - *Respecified eCQMs* – Current claims measures that are being respecified into ecQMS; must adhere to NQF's measure submission and testing process
 - *Legacy eCQMs* – Current NQF endorsed measures being used in national quality improvement programs and are being respecified into eCQMs; can use BONNIE for testing
 - *Trial Approval* – Measures are submitted for consideration into the NQF Trial Approval Program.

NQF Trial Approval Program

- Designed to encourage the development and use of innovative and needed quality measures without initially meeting the testing requirement.
- An eCQM accepted into this program can be put into the field for a period not to exceed three years and then can be considered for endorsement (assuming it passes testing during the time it is in the field).
- This is **not** time-limited endorsement as that was part of a process NQF piloted that expired at the beginning of this year.

Submission for the Trial Approval Program

- Measure must be submitted as a candidate for the Trial Approval Program
- Must meet all criteria under Importance to Measure and Report
- eMeasure Feasibility Assessment must be completed with results from a simulated (or test) data set to justify the results
- If accepted to the program, a plan for testing the measure must be included as part of the submission package (revised testing attachment available September 2015)
- Must present a plan for the future use of the measure and how it will be useful for accountability and improvement
- Any related or competing measures must be identified along with a plan for harmonization

Acceptance into the Trial Approval Program

- Measure goes through the same review and approval process as one for endorsement.
- If a measure is accepted into the program by a Standing Committee, it is designated as a Trial Use measure in NQF's Quality Positioning System (QPS).
 - The measure is **not** endorsed, it is a Trial Use measure only and is notated as such.
 - After three years, the measure can be submitted for potential endorsement.
- It can be submitted before three years expires if enough testing data are available.
- Measure will then be evaluated on the Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties only, or on the full criteria (choice is up to the developer).



Q&A

NQF 101: Introduction to measure submission for new developers



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Most important take away message!

- NQF staff will provide technical assistance at any time
- Staff can guide you through the submission process
- If you are unsure, have questions, are confused about anything – contact us
 - Contact the project team
 - » Contact information on project page
 - Contact measure maintenance
 - » [measuremaintenance @qualityforum.org](mailto:measuremaintenance@qualityforum.org)



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Organization

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**Improving Healthcare Data
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NQF is committed to helping our nation achieve quality and affordable healthcare.

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Measure Portfolios

- [Access SharePoint workspaces.](#)
- [Nominate](#) an individual or an organization for a committee.

My Measures



Measure Process



Status



Harmonization Requested

Reset

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Measure # ▲ ▼	Name ▲ ▼	Process ▲ ▼	Status ▲ ▼	Last Edited Date ▲ ▼
1699	Reva's compiste	New Measure	Unassigned Draft	Aug 05, 2011 11:23 AM
REMINDER! Your composite measure is not officially submitted to NQF for consideration.				
	Preventive services	New Measure	Unassigned Draft	Aug 05, 2011 11:23 AM

For Developers

- Access the updated [Measure Evaluation Criteria and Guidance](#) (PDF)
- [eMeasure Submission Checklist](#) (PDF)

Upcoming Measure Developer Webinars:

- [August 17 | 1:00 - 2:00pm ET](#)
- [September 25 | 1:00 - 2:00pm ET](#)

All NQF final Reports, Consensus Development Project Reports, Commissioned White Papers, and other items are available in our [Report Directory](#).

NQF Projects

Active Completed

Behavioral Health Measures	ACCESS FINAL REPORT: Project complete
Cardiovascular Measures 2014	
Cardiovascular Measures 2015	COMMENT: (Pre-Meeting) through Aug 12, 6:00pm POST COMMENT CALL
Common Formats for Patient Safety Data	COMMENT: Surveillance - Hospital - continuous
Cost and Resource Use Measures	ACCESS FINAL REPORT: Phase 2 complete WEBINAR #2: Empirical Analyses of Selected SDS Variables and Payment Outcomes
Data for Systematic Improvement	ACCESS WHITE PAPER: Project complete
Endocrine Measures	
Eye Care and Ear, Nose, and Throat Conditions	COMMENT: (Post-Meeting) through Aug 10, 6:00pm 10 AUG COMMENT Closes at 6:00pm ET
Health and Well-Being Measures 2014	ATTEND: CSAC Meeting, Aug 11 5 OCT APPEAL Closes at 6:00pm ET

[COMMENT: \(Interim Report\) through Aug 17, 6:00pm](#)

Pediatric Measures

Because of the importance of a healthy childhood for achieving good health and quality of life in adulthood, NQF will take a concerted look at pediatric measures. This project launched in July 2015. It will evaluate measures related to child health that can be used for accountability and public reporting for all pediatric populations and in all settings of care. [Read more](#)

NOMINATE - through Aug 28, 6:00pm

SUBMIT MEASURES - through Sep 30, 6:00pm

Events

28 Aug NOMINATE

Closes at 6:00pm ET

30 Sep SUBMIT MEASURES

Closes at 6:00pm ET

Orientation Call

2:00pm Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015

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Materials

[Call for Nominations](#) (PDF)

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Measures

0

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The Opportunity

A healthy childhood sets the stage for improved health and quality of life in adulthood. For the first time in several years, NQF will take a concerted look at child health measures. Many of these measures are the result of years of work by the Centers of Excellence in Pediatric Quality Measurement (COEs), which aimed both to develop new measures and refine current ones in high-priority areas of child health.

The Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) accelerated interest in pediatric quality measurement and presented an unprecedented opportunity to improve the health care quality and outcomes of the nation's children, including the almost 40 million children enrolled in Medicaid and/or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). CHIPRA also established the Pediatric Quality Measures Program. The program, with support from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), funded seven Centers of Excellence to develop and refine child health measures in high-priority areas. After years of concerted effort, a cohort of these measures is now ready for NQF to review and endorsement consideration. This work adds to the NQF pediatric measure work through the Measure Applications Partnership, which continues its work to improve the Child Core Set of measures used by Medicaid and CHIP.

About the Project

The Pediatric Measures project launched in July 2015. This project will evaluate measures related to child health that can be used for accountability and public reporting for all pediatric populations and in all settings of care. This project will address topic areas including but not limited to:

- Child- and adolescent-focused clinical preventive services and follow-up to preventive services
- Child- and adolescent-focused services for management of acute conditions
- Child- and adolescent-focused services for management of chronic conditions
- Cross-cutting topics

Objectives

A multi-stakeholder Steering Committee will be established to evaluate newly submitted measures and make recommendations for which measures should be endorsed as national consensus standards. This Committee will work to identify and endorse new performance measures for accountability and quality improvement that specifically address the area of pediatric care.

- Child- and adolescent-focused services for management of acute conditions
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NQF Process

Candidate consensus standards will be considered for NQF endorsement as national voluntary consensus standards. Consensus on the recommendations will be developed through NQF's formal [Consensus Development Process](#) (CDP, Version 1.8). This project involves the active participation of representatives from across the spectrum of healthcare stakeholders and will be guided by a [Standing Committee](#).

Funding

This project is funded under NQF's contract with the Department of Health and Human Services.

Related NQF Work

- [MAP Medicaid Child Task Force](#)
- [Child Health Quality Measures 2010](#)
- [Patient Outcomes Measures: Child Health](#)

Contact Information

For further information, contact Suzanne Theberge, MPH, Senior Project Manager, or Nadine Allen, MEd, Project Manager, via email at PediatricPerformanceMeasures@qualityforum.org.

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Step 1: What Kind of Measure?

It is important to answer this question correctly. Please check with NQF staff if you are unsure.

Composite Measure should be selected for:

- Two or more individual performance measure scores combined into one score
- Two or more individual component measures assessed separately for each patient and then aggregated into one score:
 - all-or-none measures (e.g., all essential care processes received, or outcomes achieved/experienced, by each patient); or
 - any-or-none measures (e.g., any or none of a list of adverse outcomes experienced, or inappropriate or unnecessary care processes received, by each patient).

Paired/Grouped should be selected if the measures need to be reported together to appropriately interpret the results.

If the specifications result in more than one score, individual measures should be submitted.

What kind of measure are you submitting?

- ☐ Single Measure
- ☐ Quality Measure
- ☐ Paired/Grouped Measure
- ☐ Composite Measure

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Prevention and Treatment of Leading Causes of Mortality
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Submitting Standards

Performance Measures

NQF endorses performance measures as voluntary consensus standards. Interested stewards and/or developers of performance measures may submit their candidate standards for consideration by NQF.

Online Measure Submission

To submit a performance measure, a steward must complete and electronically submit the online measure submission form for each measure they wish to submit to NQF for consideration.

NQF is using an online Measure Submission Form, Version 6.5. The online submission form includes a variety of features and allows the user to:

- Gain secure access to the submission form from any location with an internet connection;
- Save a draft version of the form and return to complete it at his or her convenience; and
- Print a hard copy of the submission form for reference.

To review the questions included in the [measure submission form](#), the [evidence attachment](#) and/or the [testing attachment](#), templates of the online forms are available below:

- [NQF Measure Submission Form \(DOCX\)](#)
- [NQF Evidence Attachment \(DOCX\)](#)
- [NQF Testing Attachment \(DOCX\)](#)

[View the Measure Submission Form Demonstration](#)

If the performance measure to be submitted is not owned by a government entity, the steward must also complete and submit a [Measure Steward Agreement \(PDF\)](#).

If a current measure stewards wishes to add new measures to their existing measure steward agreement, they must complete and submit a [Measure Steward Agreement Addendum \(PDF\)](#).

Call for Measures

In advance of most consensus development projects, NQF issues a formal call for candidate standards, customarily, performance measures. The online submission form can be accessed from the project page with the call for measures.

Open Submission Process

Measure developers are now able to begin a measure submission at any time. The purpose of providing the online submission form unrelated to a particular project is to give measure developers another venue to indicate readiness to NQF, regardless of topic. It also increases

Related Information

[Measure Submission Help](#)[Trial Measure Approval Pilot](#)

NQF Resources

The [Field Guide](#) is an online resource designed to help you easily access NQF resources.

- [Access the Field Guide](#)
- [NQF Glossary \(PDF\)](#)
- [Developer Guidebook \(PDF\)](#)
- [Steering Committee Guidebook \(PDF\)](#)

Measure Inventory Pipeline

Explore NQF's new virtual space and learn about current and planned measure development activities.

[Access the Measure Pipeline](#)

Downloads

Measure Evaluation Criteria:

- [Access the 2015 Measure Evaluation Criteria and Guidance](#)

For more details on measure evaluation criteria, see the following reports:

- [Reserve Status Report \(2014\)](#)
- [eMeasure Feasibility Report \(2013\)](#)
- [Composite Measure Evaluation Guidance Report \(2013\)](#)
- [Harmonization Guidance and](#)

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Open Submission Process

Measure developers are now able to begin a measure submission at any time. The purpose of providing the online submission form unrelated to a particular project is to give measure developers another venue to indicate readiness to NQF, regardless of topic. It also increases NQF's awareness and knowledge of what measures are in the measure development pipeline.

Please note: Using the online submission form to indicate "readiness" of a measure to NQF is not a formal submission of your measure to NQF for consideration of endorsement. Please notify NQF staff via measuremaintenance@qualityforum.org when you have completed a submission using this process. NQF staff will work with each developer to identify upcoming projects for which the measure may be appropriate and discuss next steps to enable submission of the measure.

[Begin Your Measure Now](#)

Measure Evaluation

The measure submission form is intended to obtain information demonstrating that the criteria for endorsement have been met. NQF evaluates measures against standardized [Measure Evaluation Criteria](#): Importance to Measure and Report, Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties, Feasibility, Usability and Use, and requirements for Related and Competing Measures. Some performance measures such as resource use and composites may have some additional criteria. Information regarding the criteria as well as guidance documents can be found on the [Measure Evaluation Criteria page](#).

Other Standards

Calls for other types of standards may be issued as needed. For example, NQF may initially issue a call for practices, and then a subsequent call for measures at a later date.

Downloads

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For more details on measure evaluation criteria, see the following reports:

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- [eMeasure Feasibility Report](#) (2013)
- [Composite Measure Evaluation Guidance Report](#) (2013)
- [Harmonization Guidance and Definitions](#) (2013)
- [Usability Report](#) (2012)
- [Patient Reported Outcomes Report](#) (2012)

Measure Submission Guidance:

- [ICD-10 Guidance and Requirements](#) (PDF)
- [Quality Measure Submission Form](#) (V6.5, 2013)
- [Cost and Resource Use Measure Submission Form](#) (V2.0, 2013)
- [Composite Measure Submission Form](#) (V2.0, 2013)
- [What Good Looks Like - Measure Submission Examples](#) (2013)

Archived Reference Material:

- [2013 Measure Evaluation Criteria](#)
- [2013 Measure Evaluation Criteria and Guidance on Evaluation](#)
- [2011 Measure Evaluation Criteria](#) (Submitted Jan 2011 - Nov 2012)
- [2009 Measure Evaluation Criteria](#) (Submitted PRIOR to Jan 2011)
- [Measure Evaluation Guidance Report](#) (2013)
- [Measure Harmonization Report](#) (2011)
- [Competing Measures Report](#) (2011)
- [Measure Testing Task Force Report](#) (2011)
- [Evidence Task Force Report](#) (2011)

How to submit a measure to NQF

- Ask NQF staff for assistance
- Sign up for an account and access dashboard
- Read the Developer Guidebook
- Read the information on the project page
 - Note NQF staff contacts
 - Note dates and deadlines
- Review the Word version of the measure submission form (MSF) and the two attachments before going to the online form
- As you fill out the MSF, refer to these two documents:
 - 2015 Measure criteria and Guidance
 - What Good Looks Like examples



Q&A

Next Steps

- Next scheduled webinar will be Monday, September 28, from 1:00-2:00 PM EST.
- Should you have any questions, please contact measuremaintenance@qualityforum.org.