Measure Developer Webinar

NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

September 15, 2014

Announcements

- NQF will resume monthly developer webinars; *every third Monday of the month from 1:00-2:00pm EST.*

- The Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) is entering its fourth year of providing strategic guidance to HHS on measures considered for use in federal health programs.

  - Town Hall held on September 22, 2014

  - MAP Orientation held on September 24, 2014

2014-2015 Endorsement and Maintenance Schedule

Project	Date Project Page Available	Date Call for Measures Opens	Measure Submission Deadline
NEW Cardiovascular Phase 2	9/30/2014	N/A (Not accepting new submissions)	N/A (Not accepting new submissions)
NEW Surgery Phase 2	9/30/2014	9/30/2014	12/31/2014
NEW Health and Well Being Phase 2	10/14/14	10/14/2014	1/16/2015
NEW Renal*	9/30/2014	9/30/2014	2/27/2015
NEW HEENT*	9/30/2014	9/30/2014	3/27/2015
NEW Patient Safety Phase 2	9/30/2014	9/30/2014	4/10/2015
NEW Cardiovascular Phase 3	9/30/2014	9/30/2014	6/30/2015
Person and Family Centered Care Phase 2	*Currently available*	*Currently open*	*11/7/2014*
Endocrine Cycle 3	*Currently available*	*Currently open*	*12/5/2014*

*HEENT and Renal will open Calls for Measures and Calls for Nominations.

2014-2015 Endorsement and Maintenance Schedule , cont.

- Project start dates announced via NQFGO
- Measure assignments will be available on your Dashboard within the next several days
  - Project teams will contact you if measures due for maintenance review
- Update "Attachment A" of Measure Steward Agreement with newly submitted measures (no need to re-sign MSA or include measures in earlier versions of "Attachment A")
- Contact Maintenance Team at maintenance@qualityforum.org with questions

- Risk Adjustment for Socioeconomic Status or Other Socio-demographic Factors
- Consideration of Lipid Measures

eMeasure Trial Approval Pilot Program
An Optional Path for eMeasure Approval

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- **What is the Trial Measure Approval Pilot Program?**

- **Why is Trial Measure Approval Needed?**

- **What is the Benefit to Trial Measure Approval?**

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An Optional Path for eMeasure Approval

What is Trial Measure Approval?

- A path for eMeasures that are ready for implementation but cannot yet be adequately tested to meet NQF endorsement criteria for Scientific Acceptability.

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Requirements for all eMeasures

- Specified in HL7 Health Quality Measures Format (HQMF)

- Measure logic represented using the HQMF and Quality Data Model (QDM) format

- Uses value sets that are cataloged in the Value Set Authority Center (VSAC) database, or if new value sets – are properly vetted.

- Assessment of both data element feasibility and measure logic feasibility

Evaluation of eMeasures for Endorsement

1. Importance: Evidence, Performance Gap, Priority
2. Scientific Acceptability (must pass):
   - ✓ eMeasures must be tested in 3 EHRs
3. Feasibility:
   - ✓ eMeasure Feasibility Criteria which gauges "implementation readiness"
4. Usability and Use (planned)
5. Related and competing measures (identified, harmonized, justification)

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Evaluation: Endorsement <u>and</u> Trial Approval Pathway

Importance to Measure and Report: Extent to which the specific measure focus is evidence-based, important to making significant gains in healthcare quality, and improving health outcomes for a specific high-priority (high-impact) aspect of healthcare where there is variation in or overall less-than-optimal performance.

1a. Evidence to Support the Measure Focus
1b. Performance Gap
1c. High Priority
1d. Quality construct and rationale (composite measures)

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Evaluation: Endorsement	Evaluation: Trial Approval Pathway
Scientific Acceptability:	
Reliability - 2a1: The measure is well defined and precisely specified so it can be implemented consistently within and across organizations and allows for comparability **Reliability testing—data elements or measure score - 2a2:** Demonstrates the measure data elements are repeatable, producing the same results a high proportion of the time when assessed in the same population in the same time period and/or that the measure score is precise.	**Reliability - 2a1 only:** The measure is well defined and precisely specified so it can be implemented consistently within and across organizations and allows for comparability

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Evaluation: Endorsement	Evaluation: Trial Approval Pathway
Scientific Acceptability	
Validity - 2b1: Measure specifications are consistent with the evidence provided in support of the measure (criterion 1a) **2b2. Validity testing—data elements or measure score:**. **2b3. Justification of exclusions—relates to evidence**: **2b4. Risk adjustment** **2b5. Identification of differences in performance** **2b6. Comparability of data sources/methods**	**Validity - 2b1 only:** Measure specifications are consistent with the evidence provided in support of the measure (criterion 1a)

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Evaluation: Endorsement <u>and</u> Trial Approval Pathway

Feasibility: Extent to which the specifications including measure logic, require data that are readily available or could be captured without undue burden and can be implemented for performance measurement.

3a. Byproduct of Care Processes
3b. Electronic Sources: The required data elements are available in electronic health records or other electronic sources. If the required data are not in electronic health records or existing electronic sources, a credible, near-term path to electronic collection is specified.
3c. Data Collection Strategy

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Evaluation: Endorsement __and__ Trial Approval Pathway
Usability and Use: Extent to which potential audiences (e.g., consumers, purchasers, providers, policy makers) are using or could use performance results for both accountability and performance improvement to achieve the goal of high-quality, efficient healthcare for individuals or populations.
4a. Accountability and Transparency **4b. Improvement** **4c. Unintended Consequences**

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Why is Trial eMeasure Approval Needed?

- **Encourage eMeasure Development**

  - eMeasures are still a relatively new area for measure developers

  - Limited opportunity for measure developers to test measures on multiple (EHRs) before submitting measures for endorsement

- **Meet the Requirements for Meaningful Use**

  - Participants in Stage 2 Meaningful Use will submit clinical quality measures (CQMs) electronically beginning with CY/FY 2014

  - Meaningful Use Stage 3 is likely to follow the same format as the first two Meaningful Use stages but would have higher thresholds and more extensive requirements

eMeasure Trial Approval Pilot Program
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What is the Benefit to Trial eMeasure Approval?

- **Good Measures Implemented Quickly**
  - eMeasures are reviewed by CDP against the NQF Measure Evaluation Criteria
  - If a eMeasure can satisfy the Measure Evaluation Criteria – with the exception of testing, it should be implemented in the field
  - Trial Measure Approval can be a path to endorsement

Trial eMeasure Approval Process

Initial Screening → Submit to Project → Trial Measure Evaluation

eMeasure Feasibility Assessment Maintenance Team Recommendation

Project Team Acceptance eMeasure Team Review Standing Committee Review

Standing Committee Approves for Implementation

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What Happens Next?

The measure developer is encouraged to bring the eMeasure back for full endorsement by the Standing Committee within 3 years for full NQF endorsement.

- **Submission within 3 years:**

    Option 1: Submit and evaluate only Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties, including the final eMeasure specifications and all testing. ***Maintenance due 3 years from date approved as a trial measure.***

    Option 2: Submit and evaluate on all criteria. ***Maintenance due 3 years from the new endorsement date.***

eMeasure Trial Approval Pilot Program
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Can Any eMeasure Be Included in the Pilot Program?

No –

- There is limited space in the Pilot
- The eMeasure must satisfy the **NQF eMeasure Feasibility Assessment**
- eMeasures that are topically relevant to current CDP projects are a priority

Current Trial eMeasures –

- Four trial measures approved in the Musculoskeletal project
- One measure under review in Behavioral Health project

Project Team:

- **Angela Franklin, Senior Director**

- **Christopher Millet, Consultant**

- **Kathryn Streeter, Project Manager**

- **Ann Phillips, Project Analyst**

- **Project Mailbox (trialmeasures@qualityforum.org)**

Measure Developer Workshop Follow-Up

September 15, 2014

Workshop Follow-Up Activities

Topic	Suggestion
Measure Submission Form (MSF)	Word version of MSF to work offline
	Release notes that highlight changes
	Timeline for updates with version numbers
	Technical assistance information
	More transparency for trouble-shooting
	"Smart form"/Skip logic
	Spell check
Dashboard	Archive for comments already addressed
	Ability to delete incomplete MSF

Maintenance Updates

- Measure Maintenance team is working closely with NQF IT staff on suggested improvements.

    - **Word templates** for Measure Submission Form, Testing Attachment & Evidence Attachment are **now available *on the Measure Maintenance and Submitting Standards pages.***

    - Additional updates will be shared with developers when available.

- Several developers volunteered to participate on an NQF developer panel.

    - Will convene the panel to solicit feedback on measure maintenance processes and other related issues.

Maintenance Updates (cont.)

- ***Measure Maintenance Page***

Measure Maintenance

NQF recognizes the need to ensure that the endorsement and maintenance process enables the portfolio of measures to change over time, while continuing to provide consistency and currency for those individuals and organizations implementing the measures. For more information on NQF's maintenance processes review the policy below.

NQF Endorsement Maintenance Policy (2013) (PDF)

As part of the maintenance review process, NQF is interested in how endorsed measures are being used. Measure users have the opportunity to submit comments on measures in use via NQF's Quality Positioning System (QPS), a measure search tool.

NQF is also a facilitator in the ICD-10 coding conversion process. Learn more about our approach here.

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

- NQF Measure Submission Form (DOCX)
- NQF Evidence Attachment (DOCX)
- NQF Testing Attachment (DOCX)

Maintenance Updates (cont.)

- *Submitting Standards Page*

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, Word 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

Next Steps

- Next scheduled webinar will be Monday, October 20, 2014 from 1:00-2:00pm EST.