

Monthly Measure Developer Webinar

Monday, November 16, 2015



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Agenda Items

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Announcements**
 - MAP 2015-2016 Pre-Rulemaking Activities
 - Measure Developer Workshop – Spring 2016
- **Maintenance Checklist**
- **SDS Trial Period Updates: Cost and Resource Use Project**
- **Q & A**
- **Next Steps**

Announcements

NQF 2015-2016 Upcoming Activities

Measure Partnership Applications (MAP) Pre-Rulemaking Activities

■ In-Person Meetings

- » Clinician Workgroup – December 9-10
- » PAC/LTC Workgroup - December 14-15
- » Hospital Workgroup - December 16-17
- » Coordinating Committee- January 26-27, 2016

■ Web Meetings

- » Dual Eligible Beneficiaries Workgroup – January 13, 2016

NQF 2015-2016 Upcoming Activities

SAVE THE DATE

Measure Developer Workshop – May 4-5, 2016

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MD Workshop Topics](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MD_Workshop_Topics)

Maintenance Checklist FAQ Overview

SDS Trial Period Updates: Cost and Resource Use Project

Cost and Resource Use

Evaluating the Relationship between SDS Factors and Payment Outcomes

*Measure Developer Webinar
November 16, 2015*

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*Project Team:
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Overview of Sociodemographic Status (SDS) Adjustment Trial Period

- The 2-year SDS trial period began in January 2015
- During this time period:
 - SDS factors should be considered as potential factors in the risk model, if there is a conceptual reason for doing so;
 - Empirical analysis should be done on those SDS factors that have a conceptual relationship to determine their contribution to the risk adjustment model
 - Measure developers will present their final risk adjustment model, and Standing Committees will evaluate the validity of the risk adjustment approach

SDS Trial Period includes 3 Cost Measures

- The NQF Board of Directors ratified the CSAC's recommendations to endorse these 3 cost/resource use measures:
 - #2431: Hospital-level, risk-standardized payment associated with a 30-day episode-of-care for Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) (CMS/Yale);
 - #2436: Hospital-level, risk-standardized payment associated with a 30-day episode-of-care for Heart Failure (HF) (CMS/Yale);
 - #2579: Hospital-level, risk-standardized payment associated with a 30-day episode of care pneumonia (CMS/Yale).
- With the following conditions:
 - Consideration for the SDS trial period; and
 - Further examination of the approaches to attribution (Project Launch 10/26/15).

Reviewing the Cost Measures during the Trial Period

- The (3) endorsed CMS/Yale measures were considered under the new SDS guidance during the trial period
- Developers were asked to submit additional analysis in a two-phased approach:
 - Webinar #1: Examine the conceptual relationship between SDS factors and the outcome
 - Webinar #2: Examine the empirical relationship between SDS factors and the outcome
- These two webinars were followed by:
 - Public and member commenting period (14 calendar days)
 - CSAC Review
 - BOD review
 - Appeals (30 calendar days)

Summary of Conceptual Analysis

During webinar #1, the Cost/Resource Use Standing Committee was asked to:

- Review of conceptual analysis of selected variables
 - Educational attainment or income (from census data using patient zip code)
 - Medicaid status (proxy for low income and insurance coverage)
 - Black or white race
- Determine whether further empirical analysis is warranted
- Identify the variables to be pursued in empirical analysis
- Provide input on the plan or approach to empirical analysis

Summary of Committee Recommendations for Conceptual Analysis

1. Broaden the conceptual model
2. Additional literature review (within and between hospital effects of SDS on hospital performance)
3. Determination of a conceptual relationship

Empirical Analysis: Committee Charge

During webinar #2, the Cost/Resource Use Standing Committee was asked to:

- Review the empirical analysis of the risk adjustment approach
- Review the developer's decision to include or not include SDS adjustment in the risk adjustment model based on the empirical analysis provided; and
- Vote on Validity Criterion
- Make an endorsement recommendation:
 - Recommend [continued] endorsement of the measure (as specified by the developer)
 - Recommend to de-endorse the measure

Summary of Empirical Analyses Discussion

The results of the empirical analysis completed by the measure developer demonstrated minimal impact of SDS variables on the three cost measures

- The Standing Committee discussed several key issues:
 - Impact of DRG-based payment in identifying variation
 - The use of statistical modeling may mask differences in hospitals with small numbers
 - The need for evaluation of community-level adjustment

The Standing Committee recommended continued endorsement for the three measures without SDS adjustment.

Next Steps

- Public and Member Commenting : **Nov 16-Nov 30**
- CSAC Review: **November 17-18 & January 12**
- BOD Executive Committee Review: **Jan 2016 TBD**
- Appeals : **Jan-Feb 2016 TBD**

Measure Developer Insights



Q&A

Reference Materials for Measure Stewards and Developers

■ Developer Dashboard

- Edit/update measures
- Announcements
- Maintenance Submission Checklist

■ Submitting Standards Page

- Submit measures
- Review measure submission forms (evidence, testing, etc.)
- Review all relevant Measure Maintenance documents

■ Measure Maintenance Page

- Overview of policies for NQF endorsed measures

■ Quality Positioning System (QPS)

- Review database of NQF endorsed measures

■ Improving NQF's Processes Page

- Review NQF's work to improve the CDP process

NQF-Battelle Joint Webinar Series

Month	Topic	Organizer	Meeting Date
September 2015	Blueprint 101-Introduction to MMS	Battelle MMS	9/24/2015
October 2015	NQF Evidence Criteria including: Systematic Review (Algorithm), Guidelines, and Opportunities for Improvement	NQF-Battelle Joint	10/19/2015
November 2015	Blueprint 101-Measure Conceptualization	Battelle MMS	11/24/2015
December 2015	MUC Update	Battelle MMS	12/22/2015
January 2016	Harmonization Related and Competing Measures	NQF-Battelle Joint	1/18/2016
February 2016	Measure Inventory	Battelle MMS	2/25/2016
March 2016	Blueprint 101-Measure Specification	Battelle MMS	3/24/2016
April 2016	eMeasures	NQF-Battelle Joint	4/18/2016
May 2016	Environmental Scans	Battelle MMS	5/26/2016
June 2016	Blueprint 101-Measure Testing	Battelle MMS	6/23/2016
July 2016	Reliability and Validity Testing	NQF-Battelle Joint	7/18/2016

Next Steps

- Should you have any questions, please contact measuremaintenance@qualityforum.org.