

What Are We Doing?

Neurological conditions can be severe, affecting the normal function of both the spinal cord and the brain by impeding muscle function, lung function, swallowing, and even breathing. The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has asked NQF to prioritize, evaluate, and endorse neurological measures in key areas, including stroke, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and traumatic brain injury. These performance measures will help guide quality improvement in the care and treatment of neurological conditions. NQF will also conduct maintenance reviews of previously endorsed neurology measures using the most recent NQF measure evaluation criteria and the latest scientific evidence to ensure that NQF's work continues to get to measures that matter most.

Why Now?

With more than 600 neurologic diseases, neurological conditions are a leading cause of death in the United States and a major contributor to healthcare costs. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy during their life. In addition, nearly 800,000 Americans suffer a stroke each year, which is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States. The Alzheimer's Association estimates that more than five million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease. Care for people with dementia will cost an estimated \$226 billion in 2015. Consensus on endorsed measures will help guide improved treatment and care for millions of Americans with many common progressive neurological disorders.

How Can Members Get Involved?

NQF Members are strongly encouraged to participate and provide their valuable insights to this new effort. There are numerous opportunities to get involved, detailed below:

OCT 9 - DEC 18	<i>Nominate Standing Committee members</i>
OCT 9 - JAN 15	<i>Submit measures</i>
FEB 23 - MAR 7	<i>Comment on proposed measures</i>
APR 14 -15	<i>Join the Standing Committee deliberations</i>
MAY 6 - JUN 6	<i>Participate in our public and member comment period</i>

Organizations that are not yet NQF members but are interested in the field of neurology should consider joining to add their diverse perspectives to this important work.

[Learn more about:](#)

[Neurology 2015-2016](#)

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NQFGo is a member benefit