



National Quality Forum and Vaccination Measurement

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August 21, 2019

National Quality Forum

The National Quality Forum leads national collaboration to improve health and healthcare quality through measurement.

- A non-profit, nonpartisan, membership-based, multi-stakeholder organization
- Sets the gold standard for quality measures through endorsement process
- Provides an essential forum to the quality community – 430+ organizational members and 800+ volunteer leaders
- Was founded in 1999 as a 501(c)(3) membership organization

National Quality Forum

NQF convenes multistakeholder groups to:

- **Endorse measures**, using the Consensus Development Process (CDP)
- Provide guidance about how to **improve measurement**
- Provide guidance about which **measures to use**, using the Measure Applications Partnership (MAP)
- Provide recommendations about how to address **measure gaps**
- Demonstrate opportunity for **implementing change** collectively across healthcare, using the National Quality Partners (NQP)

Measurement in Evolution

- Reduce unnecessary measurement
 - ▣ *Measure when and where it is most appropriate*
 - ▣ *Remove measures that don't add value*
 - ▣ *Assess burden and benefits of measurement*
- Drive toward patient-centered outcome measures
- Align and harmonize measurement
- Fill prioritized measurement gaps
- Address disparities in all we do

Consensus Development Process

- Measure endorsement is accomplished through 15 CDP Standing Committees
 - *Volunteer appointments*
 - *Typically 25 Committee members*
- CDP Committees adjudicate initial and maintenance of endorsement
- CDP Committees manage overall portfolio of measures, including addressing issues of related and competing quality measures
- Immunization measures are managed by the Prevention and Population Health Committee

NQF & Influenza Vaccines

- 2014 NQF Adult Immunization Committee found 79 different influenza vaccine measures
- Currently 10 NQF endorsed immunization measures
 - ▣ *Flu Vaccinations for Adults Ages 18 and Older (0039)*
 - ▣ *Preventative Care and Screening: Influenza Immunization (0041)*
 - ▣ *Influenza Immunization in the ESRD Population (0226)*
 - ▣ *Influenza Vaccine Among Healthcare Personnel (0431)*
 - ▣ *Percent of Residents or Patients Assessed and Given Influenza Vaccine (0680)*
 - ▣ *Percent of Residents Assessed and Given Influenza Vaccine (0681)*
 - ▣ *Influenza Immunization (1659)*
 - ▣ *HPV for Female Adolescents (1959)*
 - ▣ *Childhood Immunization Status (0038)*
 - ▣ *Immunizations for Adolescents (1407)*

Competing Influenza Measures: NQF 1689, 0680, 0681

- To reduce burden and optimize efforts to improve performance on key healthcare measures, it is critical to seek alignment and harmonization on measures shared in common across multiple healthcare settings.
- In 2016, the Committee recommended the creation of a universal influenza measure to reconcile and harmonize a number of setting-specific influenza measures.
 - ▣ *Acute Care Hospitals (NQF 1689)*
 - ▣ *Facility/Hospital Short-Stay Residents (NQF 0680)*
 - ▣ *Nursing Facility Long-Stay Residents (NQF 0681)*

Comparison of Measures

Alignment with the National Voluntary Consensus Standards for Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunizations

- 1659 is aligned
- 0680 and 0681 are mostly aligned

Data sources

- 1659 utilizes data from claims and paper medical records while 0680 & 0681 use EHR data

Harmonization Current Status

- The Committee strongly recommended that the measures be harmonized
- CMS has responded by stating that they will no longer maintain endorsement of 1689
- CMS will work with their contracted developers to submit a combined specification for 0680 and 0681
 - ▣ *Deferral was granted for a three cycles*
 - ▣ *Combined measure will continue as measure NQF 0680*

New Immunization Measures

- Two new HEDIS 2019 ECDS measures
 - *Initiated by NAIIS*
 - *Developed and tested by NCQA with NVPO funding*
- Adult Immunization Status
 - *Flu; Td/Tdap; herpes zoster; pneumo*
 - *NQF MAP SSP recommendation: Support pending NQF endorsement*
 - *NQF MAP MIPS recommendation: Do not support with potential for mitigation, namely specified and tested for clinicians*
 - *Mathematica Annual Review Workgroup: not recommended for addition to Medicaid Adult Core Set as 1st year HEDIS Measure*
- Prenatal Immunization Status
 - *Flu; Tdap*
 - *Mathematica Annual Review Workgroup: not recommended for addition to Medicaid Adult Core Set as 1st year HEDIS Measure*

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