



Measure Information

This document contains the information submitted by measure developers/stewards, but is organized according to NQF's measure evaluation criteria and process. The item numbers refer to those in the submission form but may be in a slightly different order here. In general, the item numbers also reference the related criteria (e.g., item 1b.1 relates to subcriterion 1b).

Brief Measure Information

NQF #: 0562

De.2. Measure Title: Overutilization of Imaging Studies in Melanoma

Co.1.1. Measure Steward: American Academy of Dermatology

De.3. Brief Description of Measure: Percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a current diagnosis of Stage 0 through IIC melanoma or a history of melanoma of any stage, without signs or symptoms suggesting systemic spread, seen for an office visit during the one-year measurement period, for whom no diagnostic imaging studies were ordered

1b.1. Developer Rationale: There is no valid indication for expensive imaging studies in early stage melanoma in the absence of signs or symptoms (NCCN, 2012). This measure is aiming to reduce the use of imaging studies that are clinically unnecessary and reduce economic burden to the patient and payer.

S.4. Numerator Statement: Patients for whom no diagnostic imaging studies were ordered

S.7. Denominator Statement: All patients, regardless of age, with a current diagnosis of Stage 0 through IIC melanoma or a history of melanoma of any stage, without signs or symptoms suggesting systemic spread, seen for an office visit during the one-year measurement period

S.10. Denominator Exclusions: The PCPI exception methodology uses three categories of exception reasons for which a patient may be removed from the denominator of an individual measure. These measure exception categories are not uniformly relevant across all measures; for each measure, there must be a clear rationale to permit an exception for a medical, patient, or system reason. Examples are provided in the measure exception language of instances that may constitute an exception and are intended to serve as a guide to clinicians. For this measure, exceptions may include medical reason(s) (eg, patient has co-morbid condition that warrants imaging, other medical reasons) or system reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, requirement for clinical trial enrollment, ordered by another provider, other system reasons). Where examples of exceptions are included in the measure language, value sets for these examples are developed and are included in the eSpecifications. Although this methodology does not require the external reporting of more detailed exception data, the PCPI recommends that physicians document the specific reasons for exception in patients' medical records for purposes of optimal patient management and audit-readiness. The PCPI also advocates the systematic review and analysis of each physician's exceptions data to identify practice patterns and opportunities for quality improvement.

Documentation of medical reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, patient has co-morbid condition that warrants imaging, other medical reasons)

Documentation of system reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, requirement for clinical trial enrollment, ordered by another provider, other system reasons)

De.1. Measure Type: Process

S.23. Data Source: Administrative claims, Electronic Clinical Data, Electronic Clinical Data : Electronic Health Record, Electronic Clinical Data : Imaging/Diagnostic Study, Electronic Clinical Data : Registry, Paper Medical Records

S.26. Level of Analysis: Clinician : Group/Practice, Clinician : Individual, Clinician : Team

IF Endorsement Maintenance – Original Endorsement Date: Oct 30, 2009 **Most Recent Endorsement Date:** Aug 09, 2012

IF this measure is included in a composite, NQF Composite#/title:

IF this measure is paired/grouped, NQF#/title:

De.4. IF PAIRED/GROUPED, what is the reason this measure must be reported with other measures to appropriately interpret results? This measure is not included in a composite.

1. Evidence, Performance Gap, Priority – 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. **Measures must be judged to meet all subcriteria to pass this criterion and be evaluated against the remaining criteria.**

1a. Evidence to Support the Measure Focus – See attached Evidence Submission Form
[0562_Evidence_MSF5.0_Data.doc](#)

1b. Performance Gap

Demonstration of quality problems and opportunity for improvement, i.e., data demonstrating:

- considerable variation, or overall less-than-optimal performance, in the quality of care across providers; and/or
- disparities in care across population groups.

1b.1. Briefly explain the rationale for this measure (e.g., the benefits or improvements in quality envisioned by use of this measure)

There is no valid indication for expensive imaging studies in early stage melanoma in the absence of signs or symptoms (NCCN, 2012). This measure is aiming to reduce the use of imaging studies that are clinically unnecessary and reduce economic burden to the patient and payer.

1b.2. Provide performance scores on the measure as specified (current and over time) at the specified level of analysis. (This is required for endorsement maintenance. Include mean, std dev, min, max, interquartile range, scores by decile. Describe the data source including number of measured entities; number of patients; dates of data; if a sample, characteristics of the entities included). This information also will be used to address the subcriterion on improvement (4b.1) under Usability and Use.

Diagnostic imaging is the fastest growing medical expenditure in the United States with an annual 9% growth rate - more than twice that of general medical expenditures. Studies have found overuse of diagnostic imaging and duplication of other types of scans add little or no value. Unnecessary or inappropriate tests not only incur excess expenditures, but may also expose patients to extra risk. For example, the radiation exposure of a CT scan can be several hundred times that of a chest X-ray. The advances in cardiac imaging have resulted in the inappropriate application of these imaging modalities resulting in substantial, unexplained regional variability and increased attendant costs.(1)

This measure was included in the CMS Physician Quality Reporting Initiative/System (PQRI/S) in 2011 in the claims and registry options as PQRI/S #224 (Melanoma: Overutilization of Imaging Studies in Stage 0-1A Melanoma). The information on performance gap for this measure is not yet available.

1b.3. If no or limited performance data on the measure as specified is reported in 1b2, then provide a summary of data from the literature that indicates opportunity for improvement or overall less than optimal performance on the specific focus of measurement.

1.

1b.4. Provide disparities data from the measure as specified (current and over time) by population group, e.g., by race/ethnicity, gender, age, insurance status, socioeconomic status, and/or disability. (This is required for endorsement maintenance. Describe the data source including number of measured entities; number of patients; dates of data; if a sample, characteristics of the entities include.) This information also will be used to address the subcriterion on improvement (4b.1) under Usability and Use.

At least two of the reviewed analyses in urban counties showed that the supply of primary care physicians is less closely related to the health of urban African Americans than it is for urban whites or for African Americans in rural areas. This is likely due to the poorer distribution of primary care physicians in more deprived urban areas, with the consequently greater need to seek care in such places as hospital outpatient units and emergency rooms.(1)

Research and public education efforts have focused on melanoma prevention in white populations because of their higher risk of developing melanoma. Improved secondary prevention measures with earlier detection of thin (early-stage) melanoma likely account for the improved survival among whites from 68% in the early 1970s to 92% in recent years. Such advances, however, have not occurred in other racial and ethnic groups in the United States. Emerging data call attention to disparity in melanoma diagnosis

and survival in minorities such as Hispanics and blacks. Multiple reports found that US blacks have more advanced melanoma in association with worse survival rates; however, melanoma disparity among Hispanics is less recognized. The dearth of studies on melanoma among Hispanics partly reflects the small number of cases in many areas of the United States, as well as limitations of ethnicity information in cancer registries. In fact, the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) program and most other cancer registries did not begin classifying data for "Hispanic" until the late 1990s. As a result, few studies included data regarding Hispanics.

1b.5. If no or limited data on disparities from the measure as specified is reported in 1b4, then provide a summary of data from the literature that addresses disparities in care on the specific focus of measurement. Include citations.

1. Starfield B, Shi L, Macinko J. Contribution of Primary Care to Health Systems and Health. *The Milbank Quarterly* 2005;83(3):457-502.

2. Hu A, Parmet Y, Allen G, Parker DF, et al. Disparity in Melanoma. A Trend Analysis of Melanoma Incidence and Stage at Diagnosis Among Whites, Hispanics, and Blacks in Florida. *Arch Dermatol.* 2009;145(12):1369-1374.

1c. High Priority (previously referred to as High Impact)

The measure addresses:

- a specific national health goal/priority identified by DHHS or the National Priorities Partnership convened by NQF; OR
- a demonstrated high-priority (high-impact) aspect of healthcare (e.g., affects large numbers of patients and/or has a substantial impact for a smaller population; leading cause of morbidity/mortality; high resource use (current and/or future); severity of illness; and severity of patient/societal consequences of poor quality).

1c.1. Demonstrated high priority aspect of healthcare

Affects large numbers, High resource use

1c.2. If Other:

1c.3. Provide epidemiologic or resource use data that demonstrates the measure addresses a high priority aspect of healthcare.

List citations in 1c.4.

In the year 2010, an estimated 68,130 new cases of melanoma were diagnosed and about 8,700 patients died of the disease in the United States. However, these figures for new cases may represent a substantial underestimation, because many superficial and in situ melanomas treated in the outpatient setting are not reported. The incidence of melanoma continues to increase dramatically. Melanoma is increasing in men more rapidly than any other malignancy and, in women more rapidly than any other malignancy except lung cancer. The lifetime risk of developing melanoma in the year 2005 for someone born in the United States may be as high as one in 55. The median age at diagnosis is 59 years. As such, melanoma ranks second to adult leukemia in terms of loss of years of potential life, per death.(1)

Melanoma is among the top 10 new cancer diagnoses for both American men and women. Nationally, melanoma incidence has increased 2.4% annually in the last decade.(2)

1c.4. Citations for data demonstrating high priority provided in 1a.3

1. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Melanoma. 3.2012. Available at: www.nccn.org

2. Hu A, Parmet Y, Allen G, Parker DF, et al. Disparity in Melanoma. A Trend Analysis of Melanoma Incidence and Stage at Diagnosis Among Whites, Hispanics, and Blacks in Florida. *Arch Dermatol.* 2009;145(12):1369-1374.

1c.5. If a PRO-PM (e.g. HRQoL/functional status, symptom/burden, experience with care, health-related behaviors), provide evidence that the target population values the measured PRO and finds it meaningful. (Describe how and from whom their input was obtained.)

2. Reliability and Validity—Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties

Extent to which the measure, as specified, produces consistent (reliable) and credible (valid) results about the quality of care when

implemented. **Measures must be judged to meet the subcriteria for both reliability and validity to pass this criterion and be evaluated against the remaining criteria.**

2a.1. Specifications The measure is well defined and precisely specified so it can be implemented consistently within and across organizations and allows for comparability. eMeasures should be specified in the Health Quality Measures Format (HQMF) and the Quality Data Model (QDM).

De.5. Subject/Topic Area (check all the areas that apply):

Cancer, Cancer : Skin

De.6. Cross Cutting Areas (check all the areas that apply):

Overuse

S.1. Measure-specific Web Page (Provide a URL link to a web page specific for this measure that contains current detailed specifications including code lists, risk model details, and supplemental materials. Do not enter a URL linking to a home page or to general information.)

The updated specifications for this measure are included within this form. Additional measure information can be found at www.physicianconsortium.org.

S.2a. If this is an eMeasure, HQMF specifications must be attached. Attach the output from the eMeasure authoring tool (MAT) - if the MAT was not used, contact staff. (Use the specification fields in this online form for the plain-language description of the specifications)

No HQMF specs Attachment:

S.2b. Data Dictionary, Code Table, or Value Sets (and risk model codes and coefficients when applicable) must be attached. (Excel or csv file in the suggested format preferred - if not, contact staff)

No data dictionary Attachment:

S.3. For endorsement maintenance, please briefly describe any changes to the measure specifications since last endorsement date and explain the reasons.

S.4. Numerator Statement (Brief, narrative description of the measure focus or what is being measured about the target population, i.e., cases from the target population with the target process, condition, event, or outcome)

IF an OUTCOME MEASURE, state the outcome being measured. Calculation of the risk-adjusted outcome should be described in the calculation algorithm.

Patients for whom no diagnostic imaging studies were ordered

S.5. Time Period for Data (What is the time period in which data will be aggregated for the measure, e.g., 12 mo, 3 years, look back to August for flu vaccination? Note if there are different time periods for the numerator and denominator.)

Once during the measurement period

S.6. Numerator Details (All information required to identify and calculate the cases from the target population with the target process, condition, event, or outcome such as definitions, specific data collection items/responses, code/value sets – Note: lists of individual codes with descriptors that exceed 1 page should be provided in an Excel or csv file in required format at S.2b)

IF an OUTCOME MEASURE, describe how the observed outcome is identified/counted. Calculation of the risk-adjusted outcome should be described in the calculation algorithm.

Definition:

Diagnostic Imaging Studies - CXR, CT, Ultrasound, MRI, PET, and nuclear medicine scans. Ordering any of these imaging studies during the one year measurement period is considered a failure of the measure, unless a justified reason is documented through use of a medical or system reason for exception.

For Claims:

Report CPT Category II Code:

3320F – None of the following diagnostic imaging studies ordered: chest x-ray, CT, ultrasound, MRI, PET, and nuclear medicine scans

For EHR:

eSpecification currently under development.

S.7. Denominator Statement (Brief, narrative description of the target population being measured)

All patients, regardless of age, with a current diagnosis of Stage 0 through IIC melanoma or a history of melanoma of any stage, without signs or symptoms suggesting systemic spread, seen for an office visit during the one-year measurement period

S.8. Target Population Category (Check all the populations for which the measure is specified and tested if any):

Senior Care

S.9. Denominator Details (All information required to identify and calculate the target population/denominator such as definitions, specific data collection items/responses, code/value sets – Note: lists of individual codes with descriptors that exceed 1 page should be provided in an Excel or csv file in required format at S.2b)

Definitions:

Signs – For the purposes of this measure, signs include tenderness, jaundice, localized neurologic signs such as weakness, or any other sign

Symptoms – For the purposes of this measure, symptoms include cough, dyspnea, pain, paresthesia, or any other symptom suggesting the possibility of systemic spread

For Claims:

Melanoma (ICD-9-CM) diagnosis codes: 172.0, 172.1, 172.2, 172.3, 172.4, 172.5, 172.6, 172.7, 172.8, 172.9, V10.82

Melanoma (ICD-10-CM) diagnosis codes: C43.0, C43.10, C43.11, C43.12, C43.20, C43.21, C43.22, C43.30, C43.31, C43.39, C43.4, C43.51, C43.52, C43.59, C43.60, C43.61, C43.62, C43.70, C43.71, C43.72, C43.8, C43.9, D03.0, D03.10, D03.11, D03.12, D03.20, D03.21, D03.22, D03.30, D03.39, D03.4, D03.51, D03.52, D03.59, D03.60, D03.61, D03.62, D03.70, D03.71, D03.72, D03.8, D03.9, Z85.820

AND

CPT encounter codes: 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99241, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245

AND

XXXXF (Currently use G-code for prospective claims reporting. CPT Category II code in development): Absence of signs of melanoma (cough, dyspnea, tenderness, localized neurologic signs such as weakness, jaundice, or any other sign suggesting systemic spread) or absence of symptoms of melanoma (pain, paresthesia, or any other symptom suggesting the possibility of systemic spread of melanoma)

OR

XXXXF (CPT Category II code in development) - Signs or symptoms suggestive of systemic spread of melanoma, present

NOTE: Only patients without signs or symptoms will meet the denominator criteria for inclusion in this measure.

AND

2XXXXF (Currently use G-code for prospective claims reporting. CPT Category II code in development): AJCC Melanoma Cancer Stage 0 through IIC Melanoma

OR

2XXXXF (CPT Category II code in development): AJCC Melanoma Cancer Stage greater than AJCC Stage 0 through IIC, documented

NOTE: Only patients with Melanoma Stage 0 to IIC will meet the denominator criteria for inclusion in this measure.

For EHR:

eSpecification currently under development.

S.10. Denominator Exclusions (Brief narrative description of exclusions from the target population)

The PCPI exception methodology uses three categories of exception reasons for which a patient may be removed from the denominator of an individual measure. These measure exception categories are not uniformly relevant across all measures; for each measure, there must be a clear rationale to permit an exception for a medical, patient, or system reason. Examples are provided in the measure exception language of instances that may constitute an exception and are intended to serve as a guide to

clinicians. For this measure, exceptions may include medical reason(s) (eg, patient has co-morbid condition that warrants imaging, other medical reasons) or system reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, requirement for clinical trial enrollment, ordered by another provider, other system reasons). Where examples of exceptions are included in the measure language, value sets for these examples are developed and are included in the eSpecifications. Although this methodology does not require the external reporting of more detailed exception data, the PCPI recommends that physicians document the specific reasons for exception in patients' medical records for purposes of optimal patient management and audit-readiness. The PCPI also advocates the systematic review and analysis of each physician's exceptions data to identify practice patterns and opportunities for quality improvement.

Documentation of medical reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, patient has co-morbid condition that warrants imaging, other medical reasons)

Documentation of system reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, requirement for clinical trial enrollment, ordered by another provider, other system reasons)

S.11. Denominator Exclusion Details (All information required to identify and calculate exclusions from the denominator such as definitions, specific data collection items/responses, code/value sets – Note: lists of individual codes with descriptors that exceed 1 page should be provided in an Excel or csv file in required format at S.2b)

For Claims:

Report CPT Category II code with a modifier:

3319F-1P – Documentation of medical reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, patient has co-morbid condition that warrants imaging, other medical reasons)

OR

3319F-3P – Documentation of system reason(s) for ordering diagnostic imaging studies (eg, requirement for clinical trial enrollment, ordered by another provider, other system reasons)

For EHR:

eSpecification currently under development.

S.12. Stratification Details/Variables (All information required to stratify the measure results including the stratification variables, definitions, specific data collection items/responses, code/value sets – Note: lists of individual codes with descriptors that exceed 1 page should be provided in an Excel or csv file in required format with at S.2b)

We encourage the results of this measure to be stratified by race, ethnicity, primary language, and administrative sex, and have included these variables as recommended data elements to be collected.

S.13. Risk Adjustment Type (Select type. Provide specifications for risk stratification in S.12 and for statistical model in S.14-15)

No risk adjustment or risk stratification

If other:

S.14. Identify the statistical risk model method and variables (Name the statistical method - e.g., logistic regression and list all the risk factor variables. Note - risk model development and testing should be addressed with measure testing under Scientific Acceptability)

No risk adjustment or risk stratification.

S.15. Detailed risk model specifications (must be in attached data dictionary/code list Excel or csv file. Also indicate if available at measure-specific URL identified in S.1.)

Note: Risk model details (including coefficients, equations, codes with descriptors, definitions), should be provided on a separate worksheet in the suggested format in the Excel or csv file with data dictionary/code lists at S.2b.

S.15a. Detailed risk model specifications (if not provided in excel or csv file at S.2b)

S.16. Type of score:

Rate/proportion

If other:

S.17. Interpretation of Score (Classifies interpretation of score according to whether better quality is associated with a higher score, a lower score, a score falling within a defined interval, or a passing score)

Better quality = Higher score

S.18. Calculation Algorithm/Measure Logic (Describe the calculation of the measure score as an ordered sequence of steps including identifying the target population; exclusions; cases meeting the target process, condition, event, or outcome; aggregating data; risk adjustment; etc.)

To calculate performance rates:

- 1) Find the patients who meet the initial patient population (ie, the general group of patients that the performance measure is designed to address).
- 2) From the patients within the initial patient population criteria, find the patients who qualify for the denominator (ie, the specific group of patients for inclusion in a specific performance measure based on defined criteria). Note: in some cases the initial patient population and denominator are identical.
- 3) From the patients within the denominator, find the patients who qualify for the numerator (ie, the group of patients in the denominator for whom a process or outcome of care occurs). Validate that the number of patients in the numerator is less than or equal to the number of patients in the denominator.
- 4) From the patients who did not meet the numerator criteria, determine if the physician has documented that the patient meets any criteria for denominator exception when exceptions have been specified [for this measure: medical reason(s) (eg, patient has co-morbid condition that warrants imaging, other medical reason(s), or system reason(s) (eg, requirement for clinical trial enrollment, ordered by another provider, other system reasons)]. If the patient meets any exception criteria, they should be removed from the denominator for performance calculation. – Although exception cases are removed from the denominator population for the performance calculation, the number of patients with valid exceptions should be calculated and reported along with performance rates to track variations in care and highlight possible areas of focus for QI.

If the patient does not meet the numerator and a valid exception is not present, this case represents a quality failure.

S.19. Calculation Algorithm/Measure Logic Diagram URL or Attachment (You also may provide a diagram of the Calculation Algorithm/Measure Logic described above at measure-specific Web page URL identified in S.1 OR in attached appendix at A.1)

S.20. Sampling (If measure is based on a sample, provide instructions for obtaining the sample and guidance on minimum sample size.)

IF a PRO-PM, identify whether (and how) proxy responses are allowed.

Not applicable. The measure does not require sampling or a survey.

S.21. Survey/Patient-reported data (If measure is based on a survey, provide instructions for conducting the survey and guidance on minimum response rate.)

IF a PRO-PM, specify calculation of response rates to be reported with performance measure results.

S.22. Missing data (specify how missing data are handled, e.g., imputation, delete case.)

Required for Composites and PRO-PMs.

S.23. Data Source (Check ONLY the sources for which the measure is SPECIFIED AND TESTED).

If other, please describe in S.24.

Administrative claims, Electronic Clinical Data, Electronic Clinical Data : Electronic Health Record, Electronic Clinical Data : Imaging/Diagnostic Study, Electronic Clinical Data : Registry, Paper Medical Records

S.24. Data Source or Collection Instrument (Identify the specific data source/data collection instrument e.g. name of database, clinical registry, collection instrument, etc.)

IF a PRO-PM, identify the specific PROM(s); and standard methods, modes, and languages of administration.

Not Applicable

S.25. Data Source or Collection Instrument (available at measure-specific Web page URL identified in S.1 OR in attached appendix at A.1)

S.26. Level of Analysis (Check ONLY the levels of analysis for which the measure is SPECIFIED AND TESTED)
Clinician : Group/Practice, Clinician : Individual, Clinician : Team

S.27. Care Setting (Check ONLY the settings for which the measure is SPECIFIED AND TESTED)
Ambulatory Care : Clinician Office/Clinic
If other:

S.28. COMPOSITE Performance Measure - Additional Specifications (Use this section as needed for aggregation and weighting rules, or calculation of individual performance measures if not individually endorsed.)

2a. Reliability – See attached Measure Testing Submission Form

2b. Validity – See attached Measure Testing Submission Form

[0562_MeasureTesting_MSF5.0_Data.doc](#)

3. 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

For clinical measures, the required data elements are routinely generated and used during care delivery (e.g., blood pressure, lab test, diagnosis, medication order).

3a.1. Data Elements Generated as Byproduct of Care Processes.

generated by and used by healthcare personnel during the provision of care, e.g., blood pressure, lab value, medical condition
If other:

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.

3b.1. To what extent are the specified data elements available electronically in defined fields? (i.e., data elements that are needed to compute the performance measure score are in defined, computer-readable fields)

[ALL data elements are in defined fields in electronic health records \(EHRs\)](#)

3b.2. If ALL the data elements needed to compute the performance measure score are not from electronic sources, specify a credible, near-term path to electronic capture, OR provide a rationale for using other than electronic sources.

3b.3. If this is an eMeasure, provide a summary of the feasibility assessment in an attached file or make available at a measure-specific URL.

Attachment:

3c. Data Collection Strategy

Demonstration that the data collection strategy (e.g., source, timing, frequency, sampling, patient confidentiality, costs associated with fees/licensing of proprietary measures) can be implemented (e.g., already in operational use, or testing demonstrates that it is ready to put into operational use). For eMeasures, a feasibility assessment addresses the data elements and measure logic and demonstrates the eMeasure can be implemented or feasibility concerns can be adequately addressed.

3c.1. Describe what you have learned/modified as a result of testing and/or operational use of the measure regarding data collection, availability of data, missing data, timing and frequency of data collection, sampling, patient confidentiality, time and cost of data collection, other feasibility/implementation issues.

IF a PRO-PM, consider implications for both individuals providing PROM data (patients, service recipients, respondents) and those whose performance is being measured.

This measure was found to be reliable and feasible for implementation.

3c.2. Describe any fees, licensing, or other requirements to use any aspect of the measure as specified (e.g., value/code set, risk model, programming code, algorithm).

4. 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

Performance results are used in at least one accountability application within three years after initial endorsement and are publicly reported within six years after initial endorsement (or the data on performance results are available). If not in use at the time of initial endorsement, then a credible plan for implementation within the specified timeframes is provided.

4.1. Current and Planned Use

NQF-endorsed measures are expected to be used in at least one accountability application within 3 years and publicly reported within 6 years of initial endorsement in addition to performance improvement.

Planned	Current Use (for current use provide URL)
Public Reporting	
Professional Certification or Recognition Program	
Quality Improvement (Internal to the specific organization)	

4a.1. For each CURRENT use, checked above, provide:

- Name of program and sponsor
- Purpose
- Geographic area and number and percentage of accountable entities and patients included

4a.2. If not currently publicly reported OR used in at least one other accountability application (e.g., payment program, certification, licensing) what are the reasons? (e.g., Do policies or actions of the developer/steward or accountable entities restrict access to performance results or impede implementation?)

4a.3. If not currently publicly reported OR used in at least one other accountability application, provide a credible plan for implementation within the expected timeframes -- any accountability application within 3 years and publicly reported within 6 years of initial endorsement. (Credible plan includes the specific program, purpose, intended audience, and timeline for implementing the measure within the specified timeframes. A plan for accountability applications addresses mechanisms for data aggregation and reporting.)

4b. Improvement

Progress toward achieving the goal of high-quality, efficient healthcare for individuals or populations is demonstrated. If not in use for performance improvement at the time of initial endorsement, then a credible rationale describes how the performance results could be used to further the goal of high-quality, efficient healthcare for individuals or populations.

4b.1. Progress on Improvement. (Not required for initial endorsement unless available.)

Performance results on this measure (current and over time) should be provided in 1b.2 and 1b.4. Discuss:

- Progress (trends in performance results, number and percentage of people receiving high-quality healthcare)
- Geographic area and number and percentage of accountable entities and patients included

4b.2. If no improvement was demonstrated, what are the reasons? If not in use for performance improvement at the time of initial endorsement, provide a credible rationale that describes how the performance results could be used to further the goal of high-quality, efficient healthcare for individuals or populations.

4c. Unintended Consequences

The benefits of the performance measure in facilitating progress toward achieving high-quality, efficient healthcare for individuals or populations outweigh evidence of unintended negative consequences to individuals or populations (if such evidence exists).

4c.1. Were any unintended negative consequences to individuals or populations identified during testing; OR has evidence of unintended negative consequences to individuals or populations been reported since implementation? If so, identify the negative unintended consequences and describe how benefits outweigh them or actions taken to mitigate them.

We are not aware of any unintended consequences related to this measurement.

5. Comparison to Related or Competing Measures

If a measure meets the above criteria and there are endorsed or new related measures (either the same measure focus or the same target population) or competing measures (both the same measure focus and the same target population), the measures are compared to address harmonization and/or selection of the best measure.

5. Relation to Other NQF-endorsed Measures

Are there related measures (conceptually, either same measure focus or target population) or competing measures (conceptually both the same measure focus and same target population)? If yes, list the NQF # and title of all related and/or competing measures.

5.1a. List of related or competing measures (selected from NQF-endorsed measures)

5.1b. If related or competing measures are not NQF endorsed please indicate measure title and steward.

5a. Harmonization

The measure specifications are harmonized with related measures;

OR

The differences in specifications are justified

5a.1. If this measure conceptually addresses EITHER the same measure focus OR the same target population as NQF-endorsed measure(s):

Are the measure specifications completely harmonized?

5a.2. If the measure specifications are not completely harmonized, identify the differences, rationale, and impact on interpretability and data collection burden.

5b. Competing Measures

The measure is superior to competing measures (e.g., is a more valid or efficient way to measure);

OR

Multiple measures are justified.

5b.1. If this measure conceptually addresses both the same measure focus and the same target population as NQF-endorsed measure(s):
Describe why this measure is superior to competing measures (e.g., a more valid or efficient way to measure quality); OR provide a rationale for the additive value of endorsing an additional measure. (Provide analyses when possible.)
[No competing measures have been identified.](#)

Appendix

A.1 Supplemental materials may be provided in an appendix. All supplemental materials (such as data collection instrument or methodology reports) should be organized in one file with a table of contents or bookmarks. If material pertains to a specific submission form number, that should be indicated. Requested information should be provided in the submission form and required attachments. There is no guarantee that supplemental materials will be reviewed.

Attachment:

Contact Information

Co.1 Measure Steward (Intellectual Property Owner): [American Academy of Dermatology](#)

Co.2 Point of Contact: [Joshua, Nyirenda, JNyirenda@aad.org, 202-609-6329-](#)

Co.3 Measure Developer if different from Measure Steward: [American Academy of Dermatology](#)

Co.4 Point of Contact: [Joshua, Nyirenda, JNyirenda@aad.org, 202-609-6329-](#)

Additional Information

Ad.1 Workgroup/Expert Panel involved in measure development

Provide a list of sponsoring organizations and workgroup/panel members' names and organizations. Describe the members' role in measure development.

[Raj Behal, MD, MPH \(Co-Chair\)\(methodology\)](#)

[Dirk Elston, MD \(Co-Chair\)\(dermatology\)](#)

[Stephen Bines, MD \(general surgery\)](#)

[Peter C. Dandalides, MD \(health plan\)](#)

[Evan Farmer, MD \(dermatology\)](#)

[Rutledge Forney, MD \(dermatology\)](#)

[Andrea Gelzer, MD, MS FACP \(health plan\)](#)

[Robert Gilson, MD \(dermatology\)](#)

[Stephen Helms, MD \(dermatology\)](#)

[Abrar Qureshi, MD \(dermatology\)](#)

[Todd Schlessinger, MD \(dermatology\)](#)

[John Schneider, MD, PhD \(family medicine\)](#)

[Janet \(Jessie\) Sullivan, MD\(dermatology\)](#)

[Arthur Sober, MD \(dermatology\)](#)

[Steven Strobe, MD, Med, MPH \(family medicine\)](#)

[William Wooden, MD \(plastic surgery\)](#)

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Measure Developer/Steward Updates and Ongoing Maintenance

Ad.2 Year the measure was first released: 2007

Ad.3 Month and Year of most recent revision: 12, 2011

Ad.4 What is your frequency for review/update of this measure? Please see [Additional Information/Comments](#)

Ad.5 When is the next scheduled review/update for this measure? 09, 2012

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Ad.7 Disclaimers:

Ad.8 Additional Information/Comments: Coding/Specifications updates occur annually. The PCPI has a formal measurement review process that stipulates regular (usually on a three-year cycle, when feasible) review of the measures. The process can also be activated if there is a major change in scientific evidence, results from testing or other issues are noted that materially affect the integrity of the measure.