



NATIONAL  
QUALITY FORUM

# Improving Attribution Models

Expert Panel Call Number Two

*December 5, 2017*

# Welcome and Introductions

# Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Annotated outline review
- Discuss use cases
- Update on literature review
- Next steps

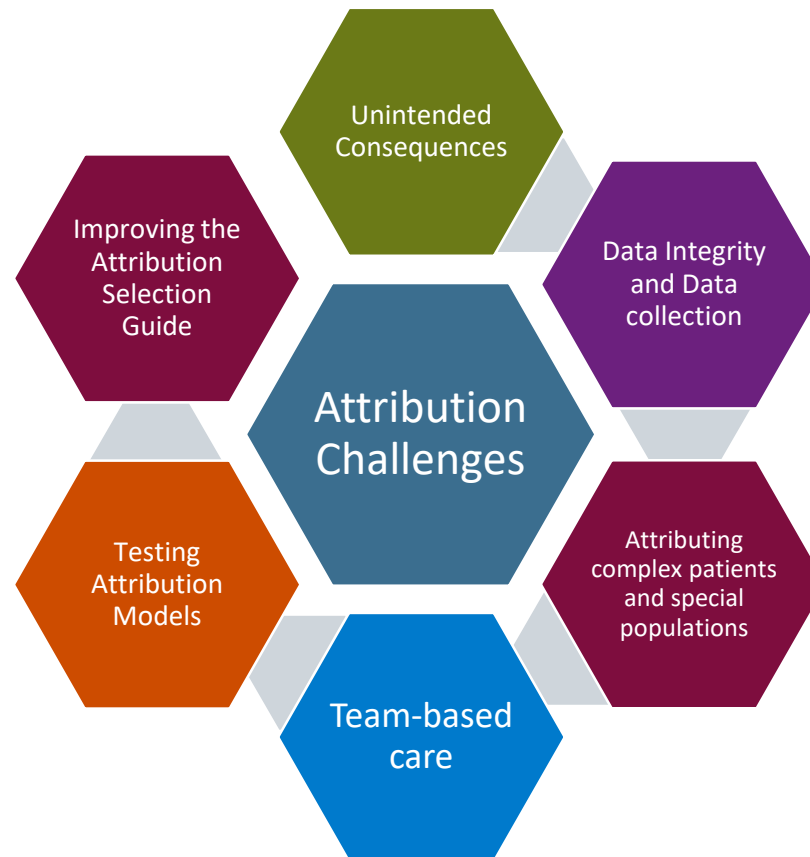
# Advisory Panel

- Ateev Mehrotra, MD, MPH
- Elizabeth Drye, MD, SM
- Danielle Lloyd, MPH
- Daniel Muldoon, MA
- Jennifer Perloff, PhD
- Brandon Pope, PhD
- Jack Resneck, MD
- Srinivas Sridhara, PhD, MS

# Annotated Outline Review

# Project Purpose and Objectives

- Develop a white paper to provide continued guidance to the field on approaches to attribution



# To accomplish these goals, NQF will:

1. Convene a multistakeholder advisory panel to guide and provide input on the direction of the white paper
2. Hold two webinars and four conference calls with the panel
3. Conduct a review of the relevant evidence related to attribution
4. Perform key informant interviews
5. Develop a white paper that summarizes the evidence review, interviews, and recommendations
6. Develop a blueprint for further development of the Attribution Selection Guide
7. Examine NQF processes for opportunities to address attribution in measure evaluation and selection

# Call One Summary

- Reviewed draft outline with the Panel.
- The Panel provided feedback; suggested additional areas of focus.
- The Panel noted that a limitation to the Attribution Model Selection Guide was the lack of concrete guidance
- The Panel suggested use cases as a way to explore more concrete recommendations
- The final paper will explore general guidance as well as present two use cases.
  - *Developed from literature review and the Expert Panel's input*
- Key informant interviews will be focused on pressure testing the use cases
- Outline has been updated with the Panel's input on the call and in review of the document.



# Section 1: Introduction

- Why this work is important
  - *Include how attribution is important to patients when possible*
  - *If done correctly, attribution can drive improvements in cost and quality. If done poorly, can penalize unfairly, interrupt high-quality delivery systems*
- The role of attribution in measurement, selection, and pay-for-performance programs.
  - *Different approaches to attribution; each with pros and cons*
- The importance of attribution for resource use, outcomes, composite measures, and population health management.

# Section 2: Contextual Factors and Terms of Attribution

- What is the current landscape of attribution — has anything changed since our prior work?
  - *Include forward-looking issues, what's expected to come with MIPS, pointing to the future of team based care, and other challenges these landscape elements have on emerging attribution approaches*
- Key definitions
  - *Clarify definition of providers*
- Summary of NQF's prior work on attribution

# Section 3: Focus and Goals

- Guidance for designing an attribution model
  - *Unintended consequences of attribution models*
  - *Challenges that data integrity and data collection methods pose to developing attribution models*
  - *Attributing care in team-based care delivery models*
  - *Challenges in attributing complex patients and those in special populations and settings*
- Current approaches and best practices for testing attribution models
- Evaluation of attribution models as part of the endorsement and selection processes
- Improving the Attribution Selection Guide, its dissemination, and its use
- Discuss challenges in context of two use cases

# Section 4: Methods

- Systematic evidence review
- Qualitative interviews
  - *Surveys*
  - *Key informant interviews*
  - *Input from other NQF panels and committees*
  - *Recommendation to use interviews and surveys to gather feedback on the use case analysis and Attribution Model Selection Guide*
    - » For use cases, find a practicing provider who is subject to these attribution approaches and results to find the real-world insights.

# Section 5: Discussion

- Guidance on designing attribution models
- Team approaches to attribution, including non-clinicians
  - *Need to consider incidental billing*
- Data challenges
  - *Role of new data sources*
  - *Validity and integrity of data*
  - *Access to data by those being measured*
- Attribution in special settings and complex patients
- Exploring unintended consequences
  - *To patients and providers, impact on success of policies, system-wide impacts*
  - *Level of testing for high-stakes consequences*
- Current approaches to testing
- Incorporation of a feedback process
  - *Potential examples of current processes*
- Updates to the Attribution Model Selection Guide

# Section 6: Recommendations to Advance the Science of Attribution

- Best practices for testing attribution models
- Approaches to attribution in team-based care delivery models
- Improving data to improve attribution models
  - *Ways to improve data collection and standards*
- Evaluation of attribution models as part of measure endorsement and selection
  - *How to test algorithm?*
  - *How to consider unintended consequences?*
- Recommendations for improving the attribution model selection guide, its dissemination, and its use
  - *Explore ways to get input from the field as a starting point for improvement*

# Panel Discussion

- Are there any other remaining challenges or issues from the first project or your experience that should be explored during this effort?
- Are there additional questions that are critical and should be explored within this project?
- Does the Panel have any additional edits to the outline?

# Developing Use Cases



# Overview

- During the first call the Panel expressed a desire to develop more concrete recommendations
- Current challenges:
  - *Limited evidence base*
  - *Best practices may be situation dependent*
- The Panel suggested exploring use cases to determine potential recommendations
  - *ACOs and specialty episodes were suggested as topics to explore*
- Two Panel members have agreed to serve as lead discussants and share their experiences using the Attribution Model Selection Guide

# ACO Use Case

# Specialty Episode Use Case

# Update on Literature Review

# Search Strategy to Date

- NQF has reviewed the sources included in the white paper developed by the commissioned authors in the first project.
- NQF staff is conducting a search to:
  - *Explore new publications (2015-present)*
  - *Explore key terms for this work*
    - » Patient, Outcome, Best Practice, Cost
    - » Alignment, Beneficiary
    - » Model
- Search will include grey literature
  - *RWJF, Kaiser, AHRQ*

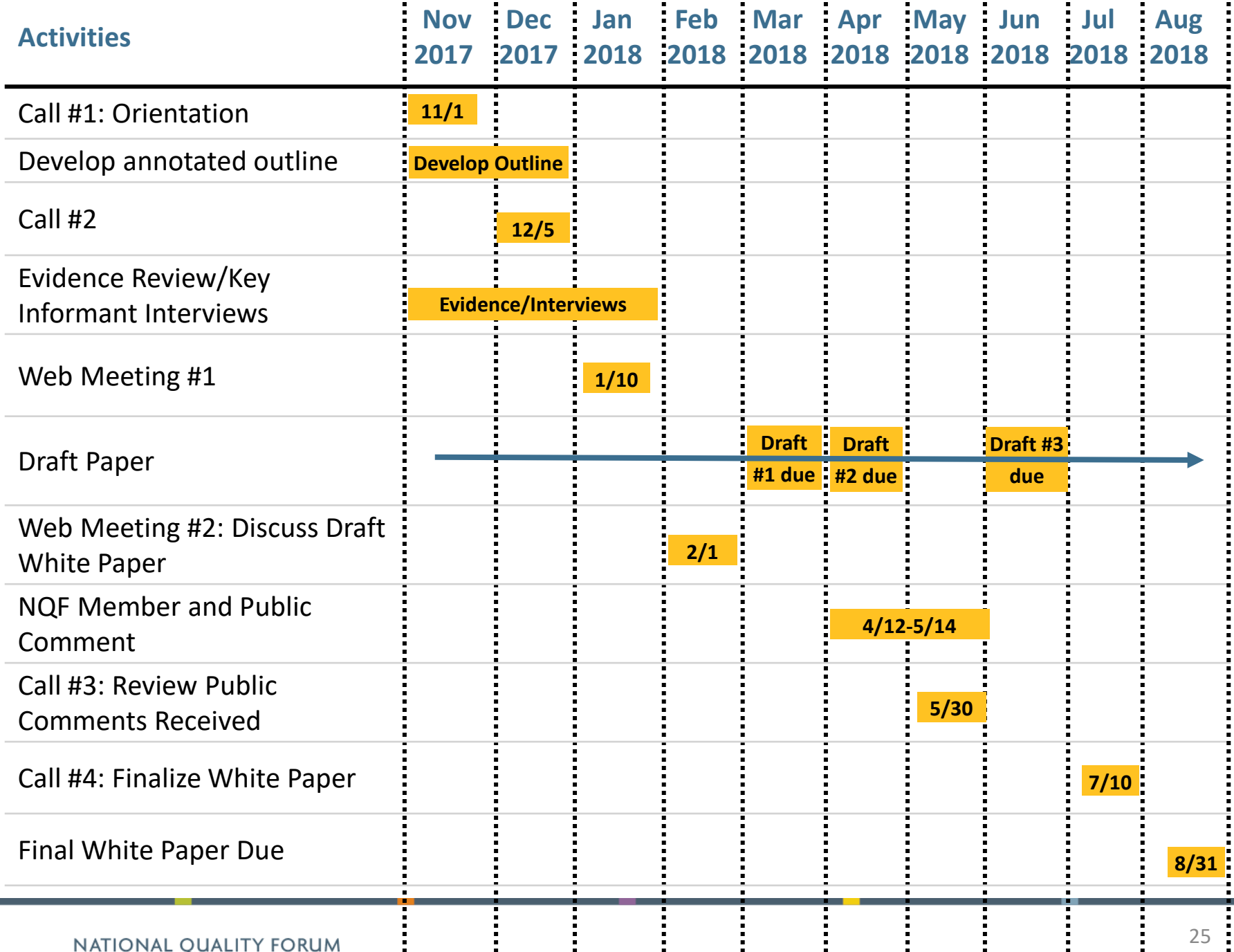
# Expert Panel Discussion

- Are there additional sources staff should explore?

# NQF Member and Public Comment

# Next Steps





# Next Steps

- Next call is January 10, 12:00-2:00pm ET
  - *Update on white paper*
  - *Continue exploring use cases*
  - *Provide input on key informant interviews*

# Key Meeting Dates

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>
<b>Conference Call: Orientation &amp; Review of Annotated Outline</b>	November 1, 2017, 12:00pm – 2:00pm ET
<b>Conference Call</b>	December 5, 2017, 12:00pm – 2:00pm ET
<b>Webinar: White Paper Update</b>	January 10, 2018, 12:00pm – 2:00pm ET
<b>Webinar: Review Draft White Paper</b>	February 7, 2018, 12:00pm – 2:00pm ET
<b>Conference Call: Review Public Comments Received</b>	May 30, 2018, 12:00pm – 2:00pm ET
<b>Conference Call: Finalize White Paper</b>	July 10, 2018, 12:00pm – 2:00pm

# Project Contact Information

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- NQF Phone: 202-783-1300
- Project page:  
[http://www.qualityforum.org/Improving Attribution Models.aspx](http://www.qualityforum.org/Improving_Attribution_Models.aspx)
- SharePoint page:  
<http://share.qualityforum.org/Projects/Attribution/SitePages/Home.aspx>

# Project Staff Contact Information

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# Questions?

Thank you.