



Disparities Standing Committee  
Post-Comment Web Meeting  
August 30, 2017

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The National Quality Forum (NQF) convened the Disparities Standing Committee members via web meeting on August 30, 2017 to discuss the comments received during the 30-day draft report public commenting period. The meeting materials can be found on the Disparities [project page](#).

This is a brief meeting summary focused on describing the purpose, process, and outcomes of the meeting. The results and recommendations from the meeting will be synthesized in the final comprehensive report, which will be delivered to CMS in its final form on September 14, 2017.

During the meeting, the Committee finalized the Disparities roadmap language, discussed the comments received on the draft report, and reviewed NQF's proposed comment responses. The Committee also edited the language of the final roadmap recommendations. Those recommendations are:

1. Identify and Prioritize Reducing Health Disparities
2. Implement Evidence-Based Interventions to Reduce Disparities
3. Invest in the Development and Use of Health Equity Performance Measures
4. Incentivize the Reduction of Health Disparities and Achievement of Health Equity

### **Overview of Report Edits/Review of Public Comments**

NQF provided an overview of the edits that staff made to the report during the public commenting period. NQF addresses outstanding concerns and suggestions received from the Committee prior to the public commenting period.

The Committee discussed changing the relationship between the four steps of the roadmap to clarify that not all steps apply to all stakeholders. The Committee decided to rename the steps "pathways" to indicate that they are not strictly stepwise. NQF agreed to make the necessary changes to the report and to the roadmap illustration.

The Committee discussed the differences between disparities sensitive criteria, measures of quality that are stratified to show a disparity, and equity measures. The Committee determined that equity measures were those process and structure measures that address effective interventions, while disparities-sensitive measures are stratified performance measures and include outcome measures. The NQF team agreed to add additional clarifying language to the report to distinguish these concepts.

The Committee also recommended the report identify stakeholder groups for each pathway, noting that although the primary audiences for the roadmap are public and private sector payers, achieving health equity will require commitment and efforts from all stakeholders in the US healthcare system.



Consequently, the pathways allow multiple stakeholders to identify how they can begin to play a part in reducing disparities and promoting health equity.

NQF will modify the report to reflect the Committee's discussion. All comments received on the draft report will also be included in the report as an appendix along with a summary of the comments and how they were addressed in the report.

## Next Steps

NQF staff provided an overview of NQF's standard dissemination strategies (press release, social media, etc.). NQF also announced the creation of a short-form version of the report, which is still in production and will be used in dissemination efforts. The Committee discussed the dissemination plan for the report. Committee members recommended sharing the report with key organizations and stakeholders to disseminate in their respective networks.

NQF also provided brief remarks on the future of the Disparities Standing Committee, reiterating NQF's commitment to health equity.

## Committee Members in Attendance

Name	Organization
Marshall Chin, Co-Chair	University of Chicago
Ninez Ponce, Co-Chair	UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research
David Nerenz	Henry Ford Health System
Eduardo Sanchez	American Heart Association
Kevin Fiscella	University of Rochester
Mara Youdelman	National Health Law Program
Romana Hasnain-Wynia	Denver Health
Ronald Copeland	Kaiser Permanente
Sarah Scholle	National Committee for Quality Assurance
Susannah Bernheim	Yale New Haven Health System Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (CORE)



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3:00pm – 5:00pm ET

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## Participant Instructions

- Please log in 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start to allow time for troubleshooting
- Direct your browser to: <http://nqf.commpartners.com/se/Rd/Mt.aspx?267375> to view the presentation slides
- Enter your Email Address, First Name, and Last Name in the appropriate fields. Click “Submit”.
- Committee members dial **(877) 623-3488** to access the audio platform.
- Public participants dial **(888) 281-0469** to access the audio platform.

## Meeting Objective

- Review public comments received on the NQF draft report, *A Roadmap to Reduce Health and Healthcare Disparities through Measurement*, and finalize proposed responses
- Identify and discuss additional report edits
- Finalize list of “Core Measures” to highlight in the final report

- 3:00 pm**                    **Welcome and Review of Meeting Objectives**  
*Marshall Chin, MD, MPH, FACP, Co-Chair*  
*Ninez Ponce, MPP, PhD, Co-Chair*  
*Erin O’Rourke, Senior Director*
- 3:10 pm**                    **Overview of Report Edits**  
*Marshall Chin*  
*Ninez Ponce*  
*Erin O’Rourke*  
*Andrew Anderson, MHA, Senior Director*
- Discuss additional edits made to the report during the public comment period
- 3:25 pm**                    **Review Comments Received**  
*Marshall Chin*  
*Ninez Ponce*  
*Andrew Anderson*
- Review public comments received on draft report
  - Discuss necessary changes to the report
- 4:15 pm**                    **Review of Core Measures**

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*Marshall Chin*

*Ninez Ponce*

*Erin O'Rourke*

- Review highlighted "Core Measures" and selection criteria

**4:25 pm**

**Next Steps**

*Marshall Chin*

*Ninez Ponce*

*Erin O'Rourke*

- Discuss report dissemination plan and identify target audiences

**4:45 pm**

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

**5:00 pm**

**Adjourn**