

THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT STANDARDS

NATIONAL VOLUNTARY CONSENSUS STANDARDS FOR NURSING HOMES

The National Quality Forum (NQF) is initiating a consensus development project seeking endorsement of measures and patient experience of care surveys for nursing homes and post-acute care nursing facilities.

NOTICE TO MEASURE STEWARDS

If, after reviewing this Notice of Intent, your organization believes it has one or more measures that address the scope and objectives of this project as described below and would like NQF to evaluate them for possible endorsement, please submit a [notice of intent to submit candidate standards](#) by Monday, December 28, 2009. Instructions for submitting this information are given at the end of this document.

BACKGROUND

A core set of performance measures for chronic and post-acute care nursing facilities provides tools for regulators, purchasers, and consumers to evaluate the quality of care in these facilities, as well as metrics facilities can use to assess and improve the quality of care they provide. These measures evaluate the resident's physical and clinical conditions and abilities, as well as preferences and life care wishes.

SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

This NQF project seeks to identify and endorse (outcome, process, and/or structural) measures and patient experience of care surveys that specifically address nursing home and post-acute care nursing facility quality measures for public reporting and quality improvement. This project also will provide maintenance to the current NQF-endorsed® nursing home measures.

THE NQF PROCESS

The candidate measures will be considered for NQF endorsement as voluntary consensus standards. Agreement around the recommendations will be developed through NQF's formal Consensus Development Process (CDP). This project will involve the active participation of representatives from across the spectrum of healthcare stakeholders and will be guided by a Steering Committee.

Any organization or individual may submit measures for consideration. To be evaluated, candidate consensus standards must meet the following general criteria:

- be fully developed for use (e.g., research and testing have been completed);
- be intended for use in both public reporting and quality improvement;
- be open source or in the public domain;¹ and

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6:00 p.m. ET on Monday, December 28, 2009

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- have an identified measure steward.²

Measure stewards also must have a fully executed Measure Steward Agreement with NQF. Information on submitting measures to NQF can be found on the NQF website.

FUNDING

This project is supported under a contract with the Department of Health and Human Services.

MEASURE STEWARDS: NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT CANDIDATE STANDARDS

Measures stewards expecting to submit candidate measures to NQF for this project should submit a notice of intent. A Microsoft Word document containing a list of measures should be sent to nursinghome@qualityforum.org no later than **Monday, December 28, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. ET**. This list should include:

- title and description of the measure;
- organization (indicate whether developer or steward); and
- contact person (name, e-mail address, and telephone number).

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, contact Melissa Marinelarena, RN, BSN, at 202-783-1300 or via e-mail at nursinghome@qualityforum.org.

¹ NQF requires any non-government organization submitting a measure for endorsement to execute a Measure Steward Agreement that addresses intellectual property protection and disclosure of the measure's proprietary components, including but not limited to specifications, risk adjustment methodologies, data collection instrument, data collection or analysis software, and database access. For details, please see our [Policy on Endorsement of Proprietary Measures](#).

² NQF requires any measure considered for endorsement to have an identified responsible entity and process to maintain and update the measure on a schedule commensurate with clinical innovation, but at least every 3 years. Measure stewards must execute a [Measure Steward Agreement](#) with NQF.

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