



NATIONAL
QUALITY FORUM

Primary Care and Chronic Illness

Spring 2018 Cycle

CSAC Review and Endorsement

October 23, 2018

Primary Care and Chronic Illness

- Over the last 15 years, NQF has endorsed more than 50 measures to help improve primary care and care for chronic illnesses. These measures are used in many national and state-level public reporting and accountability programs, as well as for quality improvement.
- In 2017, NQF consolidated several committees to form the Primary Care and Chronic Illness Standing Committee.
 - *This measure portfolio includes endocrine conditions; nonsurgical eyes, ears, nose, and throat conditions; infectious disease; musculoskeletal disorders; and pulmonary disease.*

Primary Care and Chronic Illness

- Seven maintenance measures under review
 - *No new measures submitted for review*
 - *3 – Osteoporosis Screening/Testing*
 - *4 – Diabetes Care*
 - *None of the seven maintenance measures were submitted to the Scientific Methods Panel for review of the Scientific Acceptability criterion*
- Six maintenance measures were withdrawn from consideration prior to measure submission. As requested by the developers, NQF has removed endorsement for these measures.

Primary Care and Chronic Illness Standing Committee Recommendations

■ Recommended

- *0046 Screening for Osteoporosis for Women 65-85 Years of Age*
- *0053 Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture*
- *0055 Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Eye Exam (retinal) Performed*
- *0056 Comprehensive Diabetes: Foot Exam*
- *0057 Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Testing*
- *0062 Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Medical Attention for Nephropathy*

■ Not Recommended

- *0037 Osteoporosis Testing in Older Women (OTO)*

Measure Evaluation Summary

	Maintenance Measures	New Measures	TOTAL Measures
Submitted	7	0	7
Measures Recommended	6	0	6
Measures Not Recommended	1	0	1
Measures Withdrawn from Consideration	6	0	6
Reasons for not recommending:	Importance – 0 Scientific Acceptability -1 Overall – 0	Importance – 0 Scientific Acceptability - 0 Overall – 0	

Overarching Issues

- Data Availability and the Clinician Level of Analysis
 - *The Committee discussed the lack of data for quality measures at the clinician level of analysis. These limitations in data availability can inhibit awareness of the strengths and weaknesses in clinical quality measures.*

- Unintended Consequences of Overuse of Clinical Tests/Exams
 - *The Committee discussed the potential unintended consequences of overuse of testing and/or exams in osteoporosis and diabetes care measures. In these measures the Committee noted that if the provider is not aware or cannot find documentation of the previously performed test/exams, there is the potential for overuse. Overall, the Committee believed the benefit of the tests/exams outweighed the unintended consequences.*

- “Topped Out” Clinical Quality Measures
 - *For re-evaluation of previously endorsed measures, there is increased emphasis on current performance and opportunity for improvement. The Committee discussed when to deem a clinical quality measure to be at its maximum performance level (i.e., “topped out”).*

Public and NQF Member Comments Received

NQF received one general comment and 13 measure-specific comments on the draft report.

- Support of the Committee's Recommendations
 - » 1 - General comment
 - *Supportive of all recommendations on measures under review*
 - » 6 – Individual comments
 - *Supportive of recommendations for re-endorsement*
- Measure-specific comments (7)
 - » 1 – Supportive of recommendation to not re-endorse, recommends removal from HEDIS
 - » 5 – Supportive of measure, recommends revisions to specifications
 - *4 – Concerned that implementation will result in overuse of screening/testing*
 - » 1 – Not supportive of measure, recommends revisions to specifications

Member Expression of Support

- Two NQF members provided their expressions of support.
 - *Five measures under consideration received support from NQF members.*
 - » 0046 Screening for Osteoporosis for Women 65-85 Years of Age
 - » 0053 Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture
 - » 0055 Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Eye Exam (retinal) Performed
 - » 0057 Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Testing
 - » 0062 Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Medical Attention for Nephropathy
 - *One measure received equal votes for support and do not support from NQF members.*
 - » 0056 Comprehensive Diabetes: Foot Exam
 - *One measure did not receive support from NQF members.*
 - » 0037 Osteoporosis Testing in Older Women (OTO)

Timeline and Next Steps

Process Step	Timeline
Appeals Period	October 26, 2018-November 26, 2018
Adjudication of Appeals	November 27, 2018-December 21, 2018
Final Report	Early February 2019

Questions?

Project Webpage:

[http://www.qualityforum.org/Primary Care and Chronic Illness.aspx](http://www.qualityforum.org/Primary_Care_and_Chronic_Illness.aspx)

Project Email Address: primarycare@qualityforum.org