

NQF Completes Review of 32 Quality Measures to Consider Removing From Federal Health Programs

Measure Applications Partnership recommends 7 measures for removal or conditional removal, and 25 for retention or conditional retention

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EINPresswire.com/ -- Today, the
Measure Applications Partnership

(MAP), a public-private partnership of diverse healthcare stakeholders convened by the National Quality Forum (NQF), released its [recommendations on performance measures](#) to be used in public reporting and federal performance-based payment programs. MAP reviewed 32 healthcare quality and efficiency measures used across seven different federal programs and

recommended three for removal, four for removal under certain conditions, nine for retention, and 16 for conditional retention.



The Measure Set Review process is a significant innovation that will help federal programs work more efficiently to improve health outcomes for millions of Americans."

*Dana Gelb Safran, ScD,
President & CEO, NQF*

NQF convenes MAP in partnership with, and funding from, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), to provide input to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on performance measures. MAP involves approximately 150 healthcare leaders and experts representing nearly 90 private-sector organizations from across the healthcare ecosystem, as well as liaisons from seven federal agencies. The MAP Coordinating Committee

oversees three Workgroups and two Advisory Groups to provide a variety of stakeholder perspectives.

This marks the first time MAP has had the opportunity to provide recommendations on the potential removal of measures. With the goal of increasing efficiency, easing measurement burden, and improving alignment, NQF partnered with CMS to develop and pilot the Measure Set Review (MSR) process, which expands MAP review to include consideration of measures for both



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retention and removal based on predefined criteria. Following the successful pilot in fall 2021, MAP executed a full MSR cycle in 2022.

“Healthcare quality measurement has never been more important, and the Measure Set Review process is a significant innovation that will help federal programs work more efficiently to improve health outcomes for millions of Americans,” said Dana Gelb Safran, ScD, President & CEO, NQF. “Measure Set Review allows federal health programs to carefully consider measure effectiveness along with the overall volume of measures and burden of reporting to make informed decisions and prioritize measures with the greatest impact.”

The 32 measures reviewed during this cycle are used in CMS’ Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting Program, Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting Program, Prospective Payment System-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting Program, Medicare Shared Savings Program, Merit-Based Incentive Payment System, Home Health Quality Reporting Program, and Hospice Quality Reporting Program.

MAP recommendations take into account a number of factors, including how each measure contributes to the overall goals and objectives of a given program, the impact on patient health outcomes, the overall measurement burden, and whether other measures may be adequate to address a particular area of concern. Conditional recommendations may be made for a variety of reasons, such as a need for additional data, or a lack of appropriate replacement measures. For details on each specific recommendation, review criteria, and stakeholder input, download the [Final Recommendations Report](#).

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About National Quality Forum

The National Quality Forum (NQF) works with members of the healthcare community to drive measurable health improvements together. NQF is a not-for-profit, membership-based organization that gives all healthcare stakeholders a voice in advancing quality measures and improvement strategies that lead to better outcomes and greater value. Learn more at www.qualityforum.org.

Zachary Brousseau

National Quality Forum (NQF)

+1 202-478-9326

[email us here](#)

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