

THE NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

CALL FOR STEERING COMMITTEE AND TECHNICAL PANEL NOMINATIONS

National Voluntary Consensus Standards for Hospital Care: Additional Priorities, 2006

With this notice, NQF is seeking nominations for members of a Steering Committee and five (5) Technical Advisory Panels (TAPs), for an anticipated project to endorse national voluntary consensus standards for selected inpatient quality indicators (QIs) for public reporting of quality performance. **All nominations must be submitted by 6:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, July 18, 2006.**

BACKGROUND: Since 2003, when NQF issued its *National Voluntary Consensus Standards for Hospital Care: An Initial Performance Measure Set*, 69 performance measures for public reporting of the quality of care in acute care hospitals have been endorsed as voluntary consensus standards pursuant to the NTTAA and OMB Circular A-119. At the request of the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research (AHRQ), NQF anticipates initiating a project that examines selected AHRQ-developed QIs for hospital quality and similar/like measures developed by other parties, as identified by literature review, through AHRQ's National Quality Measures Clearinghouse, and a "Call for Measures." NQF anticipates this Call will be issued in the near future for the following areas: morbidity and mortality related to failure of care; anesthesia and surgery-related events; utilization rates for risky or often unnecessary events; and selected mortality and volume for selected procedures.

As with other NQF projects, a project Steering Committee will prioritize the areas for potential NQF endorsement within the specified areas and will recommend a set of measures in each of the areas based on the analyses provided by the relevant TAP, as well as make recommendations about areas for further measurement development and research.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: A Steering Committee will oversee the development of a draft consensus report, including recommendation of which measures should be endorsed as consensus standards. The Steering Committee (~15 individuals) will represent the range of stakeholder perspectives. It will be comprised of consumers, purchasers, quality improvement organizations, researchers, and healthcare system professionals possessing relevant knowledge and/or experience with performance measurement and hospital administrative data and its uses, including use of quality indicators such as those from AHRQ for quality improvement. As with all NQF projects, the Steering Committee will work with NQF staff to develop specific project plans, provide advice about the subjects, ensure input is obtained from relevant stakeholders, review draft products, and recommend specific measures and research recommendations to NQF Members for consideration under the Consensus Development Process.

TAP MEMBERS: Nominations are also being sought for five TAPs. TAP members (6-8 per TAP) will be individuals with knowledge and/or experience in the areas of Patient Safety; Pediatrics; Surgery-/Anesthesia-related Events; Composite Measures; and Implementation & Public Reporting. Each TAP will undertake a technical review of the measures in the assigned area, and measures recommended by the TAPs will provide the technical foundation for Steering Committee deliberations.

CONSIDERATION AND SUBSTITUTION: All nominations will be considered for appointments to the five TAPs unless the nomination expressly indicates it is only for the Steering Committee or only for a specific TAP. *Priority will be given to NQF Members.* Please note that nominations for both the Steering Committee and the TAPs are of an individual, not an organization, so “substitutions” for meetings are not permitted.

TIME COMMITMENT: For the Steering Committee, nominees must be willing to attend 2-3 in-person meetings in Washington, DC, as well as participate in conference calls as needed (at least two) over the course of this 16-month consensus project. The project is anticipated to officially launch in August 2006.

For TAPs, nominees must be willing to attend one in-person meeting in Washington, DC (Winter 2006-2007) and to participate in at least two conference calls (as needed) over the course of the project.

MATERIAL TO SUBMIT: Self nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual has been contacted and is willing to serve. To be considered for participation on the Steering Committee or one of the TAPs, please send the following information:

- a 2-page letter of interest, highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to performance measurement and public reporting as well as expertise/experience in the areas of pediatrics, patient safety, use of QIs including those of AHRQ and uses and limitations of administrative data for public reporting on quality performance;
- curriculum vitae (CV) and/or list of relevant experience up to 20 additional pages; and
- complete contact information (address, phone, fax, *and* e-mail).

Nominated individuals will be considered for both the Steering Committee and/the TAPs unless the nomination notes otherwise. Please do not send additional material at this time.

Information should be delivered fax/U.S. mail/overnight/hand delivery to NQF at:

National Quality Forum
ATTN: Quality Indicator Project
601 Thirteenth St., NW
Suite 500 North
Washington, DC 20005
FAX: 202.783.3434

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: All nominations must be submitted by 6:00 pm EDT, July 18, 2006. *Please do not rely on e-mail to submit nominations.*

QUESTIONS: If you have questions, please contact Melinda L. Murphy, RN, MS, CNA, at 202.531.0550 or via e-mail, info@qualityforum.org