

# Technical Expert Panel Nomination Form

## Project Title:

Development of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Cost Measures for Use in an Innovation Center Model

## Dates:

The Technical Expert Panel (TEP) nomination period opens on July 17, 2020 and **closes on August 7, 2020 at 11:59PM ET**. Submit all nomination materials by the closing date.

## Project Overview:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has contracted with Acumen, LLC (hereafter referred to as “Acumen”) to develop 1-2 measures to assess the costs of care for CKD and ESRD beneficiaries for use in a model from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (Innovation Center). The contract name is “*Physician Cost Measures and Patient Relationship Codes (PCMP)*.” The contract number is 75FCMC18D0015, Task Order 75FCMC19F0004. As part of its measure development process, Acumen convenes groups of stakeholders and experts who contribute direction and thoughtful input during measure development and maintenance.

This Call for TEP is separate from other TEPs and Clinical Subcommittees that Acumen is convening for developing cost measures for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). This CKD and ESRD cost measure TEP will focus only on the development of these measures for use in an Innovation Center model.

## Project Objectives:

The primary goal of this project is to develop CKD and ESRD cost measures for use in the Kidney Care Choices (KCC) Model with quality measures under the CMS Kidney Care First (KCF) Option. The KCC Model is a voluntary model applying adjusted capitated payments for nephrologists and nephrology practices managing Medicare beneficiaries with CKD Stages 4 and 5 and ESRD. There are four payment options in the KCC Model, including the KCF Option which is open to participation from nephrology practices and their nephrologists only.

## TEP Requirements:

We are seeking a TEP of approximately 12-15 individuals with differing perspectives and areas of expertise, such as:

## Subject matter expertise:

- Clinical experts from specialties that provide care to patient populations with CKD and ESRD, including primarily nephrologists, transplant nephrologists, and interventional nephrology
- Consumer/patient/family (caregiver) perspective with experience of CKD and ESRD
- Cost and quality measurement
- Pay-for-performance and quality improvement models
- Research methodology, including risk adjustment
- Purchaser/insurer perspective

Potential TEP members should understand that participation is voluntary and that their input will be recorded in the meeting minutes. Proceedings of the TEP will be summarized in a report that may be disclosed to the public. If a participant has chosen to disclose private, personal data, then related material and communications are not deemed to be covered by patient-provider confidentiality. Patient/caregiver participants may elect to keep their names confidential in public documents. Acumen will answer any questions about confidentiality.

All potential TEP members must disclose any current and past activities that may pose a potential conflict of interest for performing the tasks required of the TEP. All potential TEP members should be able to commit to the anticipated time frame needed to perform the functions of the TEP.

#### **Patient Nominees:**

Acumen is seeking patients to participate on a TEP. We are seeking patients who are have experience with CKD or ESRD to join the TEP. Patients with this experience can provide unique and essential input on cost measures based on their own experience and perspective. Patient nominees should complete this online TEP Nomination Form and submit a letter of interest as described below, but are not required to submit a curriculum vitae.

#### **TEP Expected Time Commitment:**

The TEP is expected to meet via webinar or teleconference up to two times through April 2021. The first meeting will take place in September 2020 and will last approximately 3-4 hours, with an estimated 1-2 hours needed for preparation to review materials. The second meeting is expected for early 2021 and will last approximately 1-2 hours. TEP members may be asked for additional input before or after meetings via email or brief survey.

**Instructions:**

Applicants/nominees must submit these documents **with this completed and signed form**:

- A letter of interest (not to exceed two pages) highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above and involvement in measure development.  
Consumer/patient/family (caregiver) applicants/nominees are not expected to have experience in measure development.
- Curriculum vitae or a summary of relevant experience for a maximum of 10 pages.  
Consumer/patient/family (caregiver) applicants/nominees are not required to submit a curriculum vitae.

If you wish to nominate yourself or other individuals for consideration, please **send this completed and signed TEP Nomination form, statement of interest, and CV** to Acumen with “Nomination” in the subject line at [kcf-cost-measures@acumenllc.com](mailto:kcf-cost-measures@acumenllc.com) by **Friday, August 7, 2020, at 11:59PM ET**.

A PDF copy of the proposed TEP Charter can be found in the download section at the bottom of the [CMS Technical Expert Panels: Currently Accepting Nominations web page](#).

Potential TEP members should understand that participation is voluntary and that their input will be recorded in the meeting minutes. Proceedings of the TEP may be summarized in a report that may be disclosed to the public. If a participant has chosen to disclose private, personal data, then related material and communications are not deemed to be covered by patient-provider confidentiality. Patient/caregiver participants may elect to keep their names confidential in public documents. Acumen will answer any questions about confidentiality.

All potential TEP members must disclose any significant financial interest or other relationships that may influence their perceptions or judgment. It is unethical to conceal (or fail to disclose) conflicts of interest. However, the disclosure requirement is not intended to prevent individuals with particular perspectives or strong points of view from serving on the TEP. The intent of full disclosure is to inform the measure developer, other TEP members, and CMS about the source of TEP members’ perspectives and how that might affect discussions or recommendations.

**Applicant/Nominee Information (Self-Nominations Are Acceptable):**

Name:

Credentials:

Professional Role:

Organizational Affiliation, if any:

City:

State:

Mailing address:

Telephone:

Email:

**Person Recommending the Nominee:**

Complete this section only if you are nominating a third party for the TEP. You must sign this form and attest that you have notified the nominee of this action and that they are agreeable to serving on the TEP. The measure developer may request the required information from the nominee.

Name:

Credentials:

Professional Role:

Organizational Affiliation, if any:

City:

State:

Mailing address:

Telephone:

Email:

I attest that I have notified the nominee of this action and that the nominee is agreeable to serve on the TEP.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The nominee must submit the remainder of the nomination package within the specified period for consideration.

**Applicant/Nominee's Disclosure:**

This section addresses disclosure of any current and past activities that may indicate a conflict of interest. As a measure developer for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

(CMS), Acumen must ensure independence, objectivity, scientific rigor, and balance in its measure development activities.

Have you applied to be or have been accepted to participate in a KCF Practice? ☐Yes ☐No

Do you or any family members have a financial interest, arrangement, or affiliation with any corporate organizations that may create a potential conflict of interest? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, describe (grant/research support, consultant, speaker's bureau, and major stock shareholder, other financial or material support). Include the name of the corporation/organization.

Do you or any family members have intellectual interest in a study or other research related to the cost measures under consideration? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, describe the type of intellectual interest and the name of the organization/group.

**Applicant/Nominee's Agreement:**

- If at any time during my service as a member of this TEP my conflict of interest status changes, I will notify the measure developer.
- It is anticipated that there will be two meetings up until April 2021. I am able to commit to attending the TEP meetings in person, by teleconference, or by mutually agreed-upon alternative means.
- If selected to participate in the TEP and the measures are submitted to a measure endorsement organization (such as the NQF), I will be available to discuss the measures with the organization or its representatives and work with the measure developer to make revisions to the measures, if necessary.
- I understand my participation is voluntary and that my input will be recorded in the meeting minutes. Proceedings of the TEP may be summarized in a report that may be disclosed to the public. If I chose to disclose private, personal data, then related material and communications are not deemed to be covered by patient-provider confidentiality. If I am a patient/caregiver participant, I may elect to keep my name confidential in public documents.
- If selected to participate in the TEP, I will keep all materials and discussions confidential until such time that CMS authorizes their release.

I have read the above and agree to abide by it.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For patient participants only:** I wish to keep my name confidential. ☐Yes ☐No