

Project Title: Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Development and Maintenance for Eligible Clinicians

Dates:

The technical expert panel (TEP) will advise Mathematica and its partners over the course of the project. The project has been funded for one base period of 12 months with four optional 12-month periods of performance.

Project Overview:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has contracted with Mathematica and its partners to develop, electronically specify, and maintain eQMs for eligible clinicians for potential consideration and use in CMS quality programs. The contract name is Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Development and Maintenance for Eligible Clinicians (CMS contract #75FCMC18D0032, Task Order #75FCMC19F0004). As part of its measure development process, Mathematica convenes groups of stakeholders and experts who contribute direction and thoughtful input to the measure developer during measure development and maintenance.

Project Objectives:

The primary measure development objectives of this project include the following:

- Identifying, developing, specifying, and testing new eQMs for potential implementation in CMS quality programs that align with CMS quality goals
- Evaluating and preparing the measures for consideration and potential endorsement by the National Quality Forum

TEP Objectives:

As part of its measure development process, Mathematica and its partners (the project team) request input from a broad group of eCQM stakeholders to evaluate and provide guidance on the selection and development of eQMs through participation in the project's TEP. Stakeholders include, but are not limited to, clinicians, electronic health record vendor representatives, clinical terminology experts, quality improvement experts, health system representatives, patients and their caregivers, and patients' representatives. Patients can provide unique and essential input on quality measures based on their own experience and perspective. A well-balanced representation of stakeholders on the TEP will help to ensure the consideration of key perspectives in the measure selection and development processes. The TEP will convene on a periodic basis and will provide input on the prioritization and development of eQMs that support CMS's quality program goals throughout the development lifecycle.

Scope of Responsibilities:

The TEP will provide input to the project team to aid in prioritizing and developing eQMs that will be considered for implementation in CMS quality programs. The TEP's specific duties include the following:

- Review, prioritize, and evaluate eCQM measure concepts for development. Dimensions for prioritization could include:
 - Alignment of concept with quality program goals
 - Technical feasibility
 - Workflow feasibility: patient and provider burden considerations

- Measurement gap
- Strength of evidence regarding measure concept and clinical actions that can be taken to improved measured outcome
- Importance to providers
- Importance to patients
- Alignment with existing (competing) measures
- Potential for unintended consequence
- Review and provide guidance on the measures in response to feedback from expert work groups, public comments, and testing results regarding eCQM feasibility, usability, validity, and reliability

Guiding Principles:

The TEP will provide input throughout the measure development process. The project team will consider the TEP's recommendations and will convey those recommendations to CMS; however, the project team and CMS will ultimately make decisions about measure selection and development. The project team will write and share summary reports of TEP proceedings following meetings to highlight discussions and document decisions.

The project team will ensure confidentiality in TEP reports by summarizing discussion topics and removing the names of TEP members who make specific comments during the meetings.

Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

Members of the TEP will meet up to four times in a 12-month period via webinar, at the discretion of CMS. The TEP is intended to be a standing committee that meets throughout the duration of the Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Development and Maintenance for Eligible Clinicians project, which has been funded for a 12-month period with four additional 12-month optional periods of performance.

Date Approved by TEP:

<List the date the charter was approved.>

TEP Membership:

<Attach the TEP Membership List.>