

# Technical Expert Panel (TEP) Charter

## TEP Title:

Facility Risk-Standardized Hospital Visit Rate after Outpatient Surgery

## Name of Measure Contractor Convening the TEP:

Yale New Haven Health Services Corporation – Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (CORE)

## Measure Project:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has contracted with CORE to develop quality measures that use patient outcomes to assess the quality of outpatient care. As part of this project, CORE is developing a quality measure for outpatient surgeries. Specifically, CORE is developing a measure of hospital visits following outpatient surgery conducted in ambulatory surgery centers and potentially in hospital outpatient departments. The rationale for the measure is that patients who have outpatient surgery should rarely need to seek care in the emergency department or be admitted to a hospital facility following their surgery. CMS plans to use the measure to compare the quality of outpatient facilities and prompt improvements in care for Medicare beneficiaries. The measure will be risk adjusted to account for the differences in patients and procedures across facilities.

CORE follows CMS's structured and standardized approach to measure development, including steps to ensure substantial input from experts and the public. As part of this effort, CORE is seeking input from individuals with relevant experience and expertise who can provide a variety of perspectives on the development of the measures. This group will serve as the measure's TEP.

## TEP Objectives:

The TEP is a group of stakeholders and experts who provide input on the development of the measure for which the contractor is responsible. Convening a national TEP ensures transparency and helps measure developers obtain balanced input from multiple stakeholders. TEP members are chosen to provide input based on their personal experience and training or organizational perspective, and to represent a diversity of perspectives and backgrounds.

## Scope of Responsibilities:

Specific responsibilities of TEP members will be to:

- ◆ Complete and submit all nomination materials, including the TEP Nomination Form, statement of interest, and curriculum vitae
- ◆ Review background materials provided by CORE prior to each TEP meeting
- ◆ Participate in TEP conference calls
- ◆ Provide input to CORE on key clinical, methodological, and other decisions
- ◆ Provide feedback to CORE on key policy or other non-technical issues
- ◆ Review the TEP summary report prior to public release
- ◆ Be available to discuss recommendations following submission of the measures to the National Quality Forum (NQF).

CORE recognizes that TEP members may not be able to attend all meetings, but we expect members to attend a majority of meetings and review and comment on meeting materials for the meetings they cannot attend. We will provide meeting agendas and background materials to TEP members prior to each meeting. We will summarize member comments and recommendations in a publicly available report.

## Guiding Principles for TEP Meetings:

NQF's measure evaluation criteria will guide CORE's work. CORE will brief the TEP on these guiding principles for measure development to support the TEP's application of these measure evaluation criteria. CORE will focus the TEP discussions on measure design decisions that are most important. However, measure developers encourage the TEP to provide input on any or all of the measure components as part of the TEP's deliberations. Consensus decisions will inform the completion of the NQF endorsement application following the meetings.

The list of individuals included on the TEP will be made public. However, potential patient participants will be given the option to keep their participation on the TEP confidential in public documents.

CORE will ensure confidentiality in the publicly posted TEP reports by summarizing discussion topics and removing the names of TEP members who make specific comments during the meetings. If a participant has disclosed private, personal data by his or her own choice, then that material and those communications are not subject to confidentiality laws. CORE will answer any questions about confidentiality.

## Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

CORE anticipates holding two to three teleconference meetings lasting approximately 90 minutes each between May and August 2014.

## **Member Composition:**

TBD

## **Date Approved by TEP:**

TBD