

**TEP Project Overview:** The purpose of the Technical Expert Panel is to expand upon a current measure in the Physician Quality Reporting System, *Measure #134: Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow Up plan* to include eligible professionals as defined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This will be accomplished by revising measure specifications as appropriate. In addition, a request has been made of CMS to expand the measure to include depression screening of the adolescent population (specifically age 12<18 years old).

The CMS has contracted with Quality Insights of Pennsylvania to conduct an annual maintenance review for *Measure #134: Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow Up plan*. The purpose of the project is to maintain measures that can be used to provide quality care to Medicare beneficiaries through literature and evidence review, coding revisions and updating measures specifications codes as appropriate.

**Due date for nominations: July 15, 2011**

**Specific project objectives include:**

- ◆ Review of current specifications
- ◆ Apply definition of “eligible professionals” and expand denominator coding as appropriate
- ◆ Incorporate Wellness Codes as mandated under the Affordable Care Act as appropriate
- ◆ Identify and review any new evidence that may require changes to the specifications
- ◆ Expand the population group to include Adolescents, 12<18 years old
- ◆ Identify standardized assessment tools for the adolescent population

**The measure maintenance process includes:**

- ◆ Updating and maintaining the currency and relevance of the measure
- ◆ Revision of specifications as required

Details about the measure development process can be found in the Measures Management System Blueprint at [https://www.cms.gov/MMS/19\\_MeasuresManagementSystemBlueprint.asp#TopOfPage](https://www.cms.gov/MMS/19_MeasuresManagementSystemBlueprint.asp#TopOfPage).

**TEP requirements:** A TEP currently exists for Measure # 134. The expansion of the measure to include eligible professionals requires adding of MD/DO physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, advanced practice nurses, and experts in the field of adolescent behavioral health to the panel.

The TEP will be comprised of individuals with the following areas of expertise and perspectives:

- ◆ Topic knowledge: Depression screening and follow-up for the adult and adolescent populations
- ◆ Performance measurement
- ◆ Quality improvement
- ◆ Consumer perspective
- ◆ Purchaser perspective
- ◆ Health care disparities



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 must also commit to the anticipated time frame needed to perform the functions of the TEP.

**TEP expected time commitment:**

- ◆ TEP meetings will be conducted via teleconference with duration time of approximately 1 hour with anticipated self-directed meeting preparation time of 1-2 hours
- ◆ Anticipate total of 2-3 TEP meetings to complete the annual review

**TEP nomination:**

Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual has been contacted and is willing to serve.

**Required information:**

- ◆ A completed and signed TEP Nomination/Disclosure/Agreement form.
- ◆ A letter of interest (not to exceed two pages), highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above and involvement in measure development.
- ◆ Curriculum vitae and/or list of relevant experience (e.g., publications), a maximum of 10 pages total.

The TEP Nomination and Disclosure Form can be found in the Download section of [https://www.cms.gov/MMS/15\\_TechnicalExpertPanels.asp#TopOfPage](https://www.cms.gov/MMS/15_TechnicalExpertPanels.asp#TopOfPage). If you wish to nominate yourself or other individuals for consideration, complete the form and e-mail to: [measures@wvmi.org](mailto:measures@wvmi.org).

Electronic submissions are strongly preferred and should be sent to [measures@wvmi.org](mailto:measures@wvmi.org) with “Depression: Call for TEP” in the subject line. If you prefer not to submit electronically, completed documentation may be mailed, faxed, or sent by courier to:

Sharon Hibay, RN, DNP  
Quality Insights of Pennsylvania  
630 Freedom Business Center, Suite 116  
King of Prussia, PA 19406  
877-346-6180, ext. 7814 (phone)  
610-265-3909 (fax)

Thank you for helping CMS to improve the quality of care for all Americans.