

Health IT Policy Committee

A Public Advisory Body on Health Information Technology to the National Coordinator for Health IT



Quality Measures Workgroup: Voluntary Certification Update

June 10, 2014



- The C/A Workgroup requested that the Quality Measures WG discuss clinical quality measures and provide recommendations on potential LTPAC/BH CQM opportunities for voluntary EHR certification.
- The QMWG presented their draft recommendations at the May 6 HITPC meeting.
- The C/A WG also held a listening session and solicited public comments on voluntary certification, including the QMWG's draft recommendations.



- HITPC feedback on the draft recommendations:
 - Some members expressed that the current MU2 quality measures relevant to behavioral health are not outcomes measures
 - They were also concerned that the recommendations were promoting infrastructure with an unclear value proposition at the current time
 - Some members expressed that the industry could build innovative solutions to capture the right data elements, and that regulation could have unintentional negative effects.
- Public commenters generally supported the intent of the draft recommendations. There were indications that the industry is willing to help standardize comment data elements.



- Given the mixed feedback on the draft recommendations, the WG believes the recommendations are not ready for the short-term, but could serve as a foundation for more exploratory work.
- ONC will continue discussions with federal agencies and stakeholders to determine the policy and standards readiness for voluntary certification for quality measures.
- The QMWG does not have final recommendations at this time.



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SUPPLEMENTAL SLIDES



- Certify an “LTPAC Data Submission Module”:
 - The ability to collect and send interoperable, standardized data elements for a small number of measure domains
 - e.g., Pressure ulcers, influenza and pneumococcal immunizations, CAUTI
 - and a small set of common data elements to support transitions in care
 - e.g., functional status and cognitive status.
- The WG also recommends that CMS consider certifying the free CMS patient assessment submission tools to perform these functions.



- Options
 1. Certify that BH health IT systems have the functionality to collect and send a small set of common data elements relevant to behavioral health
 2. Certify that BH health IT systems have the functionality to collect, calculate, and send a small number of clinical quality measures relevant to behavioral health
 3. Certify that BH health IT systems have the functionality to capture a small set of key patient assessments
 4. Combination of 1, 2, or 3



- The QMWG recommends option 2 in the short-term
 - Certify that BH health IT systems have the functionality to collect, calculate, and send a small number of clinical quality measures relevant to behavioral health
- In parallel, the QMWG recommends beginning work to standardize common data elements relevant to BH that could be used build new clinical quality measures