

Quality Measures & Clinical Quality Workgroups

May 19, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m./Eastern Time

Washington Marriott Hotel, 1221 22nd Street, NW

Washington, DC

Instructions and Questions for Panelists

Background

Testimony from this hearing will help the Quality Measures and Clinical Quality Workgroups formulate recommendations to the HIT Policy and HIT Standards Committees regarding the development of useful and usable electronically reported quality measures. Panelists will comment on their experiences with electronic quality measures required under Stage 1 of Meaningful Use and the characteristics that made them (1) easier or harder to implement and (2) more or less supportive of accurate quality reporting. Panelists will also reflect on the characteristics needed to make Stage 2 and 3 quality measures optimally implementable and that add value for quality improvement, public reporting, payment, and similar programs. If you have any questions, please contact David Lansky, Chair, Quality Measures or Jim Walker, Chair, Clinical Quality: dlansky@pbgh.org or jmwalker@geisinger.edu

Format of Presentation:

The Workgroup respectfully requests that panelists limit their prepared remarks to **five (5) minutes**. This will allow the Workgroup to ask questions of the panelists and allow every presenter time to present his or her remarks. We have found that this creates a conversation for a full understanding of the issue. You may submit up to ten pages of detailed written testimony, and the Workgroup members will have reviewed this material in detail before the hearing. PowerPoints will not be needed.

Pre-Presentation Questions/Themes:

The questions below represent areas the Workgroup intends to explore at the hearing. Please feel free to use them in preparing your oral and written testimony; the Workgroup recognizes that certain questions may not apply to all presenters.

The Workgroup respectfully requests panelists to provide written testimony by **May 13, 2011**. Please submit the testimony to Thomas Tsang and Judy Sparrow at Thomas.tsang@hhs.gov and Judy.sparrow@hhs.gov

Presenter Biography

In addition, the Workgroup requests that all presenters provide a short bio for inclusion in the meeting materials. Please send your short bios to Judy Sparrow, judy.sparrow@hhs.gov

THEMES/QUESTIONS

Panel 1: Care Provider Panel

- How are you using health IT enabled clinical quality measures for internal quality improvement efforts and patient care?
- How have the electronic clinical quality measures brought value for external reporting requirements? Has there been added efficiency for the organization as a result?
- How are you using the health IT enabled clinical quality measures in other local or regional quality improvement efforts?
- Explain the challenges and strengths of current e-specified clinical quality measures and the ability of your current EHR product to capture and report the measures?
 - What have been the greatest challenges in generating (implementation, calculation, and reporting) electronic quality measures?
 - What are the challenges of data mapping of clinical processes to data elements in the EHR? (i.e. to achieve numerator and denominator counts)
 - Is the “menu” option for reporting clinical quality measures by specialty an appropriate structure for engaging provider participation in meaningful use?
- In planning for Stage 2, would you continue or modify the Stage 1 quality measures to be more valuable to your practice?
- What is your reaction to proposed measure concepts and the proposed additional e-specified clinical measures for Stage 2? Would they add value to your clinical measurement and quality improvement activity? Would they be helpful to your participation in external recognition, reporting, and payment programs?

Panel 2: Technology (EHR), Measure, and Guideline Developers

- What standards have enabled implementation of MU1 quality measures?
- Explain the challenges and strengths of current e-specified clinical quality measures and the impact on your product development?
 - What are the challenges for encoding the electronic specifications?
 - What are the challenges of data mapping of clinical processes to data elements in the EHR? (i.e. to achieve numerator and denominator counts)
- What can we do to improve the existing standards to optimize clinical quality measurement and reporting?

- What standards are needed to develop innovative or novel measures that take advantage of embedded information within your EHR, for example measures that are longitudinal, cross-setting, or patient reported outcomes?
- In light of the importance of increasing the number of valid electronic clinical quality measures, how do you plan to gain greater efficiency for future product development in this area?
- How are you adapting your product to support end users in quality improvement?
- What role do clinical quality measures play in informing development of practice guidelines or clinical decision support rules?
- What is required for a flexible, adaptive, technology environment to speed up the process of incorporating measures that reflect clinical guidelines?

Panel 3: Consumers/Patients/Payers

- Which of the Stage 1 quality measures are most valuable to consumers and patients?
- Which of the proposed Stage 2 e-specified measures and new measure concepts are most valuable to consumers and patients – (noting that the data may not be made public)?
- How do the Stage 1 and proposed Stage 2 quality measures correspond to or add value to existing payer efforts to use quality information?
- What would you recommend for Stage 2 and Stage 3 to enhance the value of the meaningful use quality measurement program for payers and purchasers?
- How are patients/consumers becoming aware of the collection and reporting of quality measures?