



The AQA Alliance

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NCVHS Secondary Uses of Health Data Ad Hoc Workgroup

Beginnings

- September 2004
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
- American College of Physicians (ACP)
- America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- Improve performance measurement, data aggregation, and reporting in the ambulatory care setting.

Present

- Originally known as the Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance, the coalition is now known as the AQA Alliance because its mission has broadened to incorporate all areas of physician practice
- A broad based collaborative of physicians, consumers, purchasers, health insurance plans and others

Mission

- To improve health care quality and patient safety through a collaborative process in which key stakeholders agree on:
- a strategy for measuring performance at the physician or group level;
- collecting and aggregating data in the least burdensome way;
- and reporting meaningful information to consumers, physicians, and other stakeholders to inform choices and improve outcomes.

Goals

- To reach consensus as soon as possible on:
 - A set of measures for physician performance that stakeholders can use in private health insurance plan contracts and with government purchasers;
 - A multi-year strategy to roll-out additional measurement sets and implement measures into the marketplace;
 - A model (including framework and governing structure) for aggregating, sharing and stewarding data; and
 - Critical steps needed for reporting useful information to providers, consumers and purchasers.

Participants

- AARP
- ACRS/ ASOA
- Advanced Medical Technology Association
- Aetna
- AFL- CIO
- Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research
- Alcon Laboratories
- Alice Gosfield and Associates
- American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
- American Academy of Dermatology
- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Neurology
- American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
- American Academy of Ophthalmology
- American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Academy Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- American Association of Neurological Surgeons
- American Congress of Neurological Surgery
- American Benefits Council
- American Board of Internal Medicine
- American Board of Medical Specialties
- American Board of Pediatrics
- American Chiropractic Association
- American Cancer Society
- American College of Cardiology
- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- American College of Osteopathic Surgeons
- American College of Physicians
- American College of Radiology
- American College of Surgeons
- American Gastroenterological Association
- American Geriatrics Society
- American Health Information Management Association
- American Hospital Association
- American Medical Association
- American Osteopathic Association
- American Podiatric Medical Association
- American Psychiatric Association
- American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology
- American Society of Anesthesiologists
- American Society of Clinical Oncology
- American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
- American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons
- American Society of General Surgeons
- American Society of Hematology
- American Society of Plastic Surgeons
- American Urological Association America's Health Insurance Plans
- Arthritis and Rheumatism Association
- Association of American Medical Colleges
- Assurant
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island
- The Boeing Company
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
- Brookings Institution
- BellSouth Corporation
- Calculated Risk, Inc.
- Capital Districts Physicians' Health Plan
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- CIGNA
- College of American Pathologists
- Congress of Neurological Surgeons
- Consumer-Purchaser Disclosure Project
- Consumer's Checkbook
- DaVita, Inc.
- eHealth Initiative
- Employer Health Care Alliance Cooperative
- The ERISA Industry Committee
- Federation of American Hospitals
- Fiserv Health
- General Motors
- Geisinger Health Plan
- Group Health Cooperative
- Harvard Pilgrim Health Plan
- Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates
- HealthPartners
- Health Dialog
- Health Management Corporation
- Health Net, Inc.
- Honeywell International
- HR Policy Association
- Hudson Health Plan
- Humana
- Independence Blue Cross
- Infectious Diseases Society of America
- Ingenix
- Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- Institute of Medicine
- JCAHO
- Jefferson Medical College
- Johnson&Johnson
- JPMorgan Chase Bank
- Kaiser Permanente
- Lutheran Health System
- The Leapfrog Group
- Maine Health Management Coalition
- Massachusetts Medical Society
- Marriott International, Inc.
- MAXIMUS
- Medical Group Management Association
- Mercer HR Consulting
- Motorola
- National Alliance for Health Information Technology
- National Association of Community Health Centers
- National Committee for Quality Assurance
- National Committee for Quality Health
- National Business Coalition on Health
- National Business Group on Health
- National Partnership for Women and Families
- Northwestern University Medical School
- PacifiCare
- Pacific Business Group on Health
- PhRMA
- Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health
- Presbyterian Health Plan
- The Proctor and Gamble Company
- RAND
- The Regence Group
- Renal Physicians Association
- Resolution Health, Inc.
- Rochester Individual Practice Association
- Shared Health
- Society for Vascular Surgery
- Society of General Internal Medicine
- Society of Thoracic Surgeons
- Thomson-Medstat
- UnitedHealth Group
- UPS
- URAC
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs
- U.S. Department of the Treasury
- U.S. Office of Personnel Management
- VHA, Inc.
- WellPoint, Inc.
- Wisconsin Collaborative for Health Care Quality
- Xerox

AQA Steering Group Members

- AARP
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
- American College of Physicians (ACP)
- American College of Surgeons (ACS)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
- America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)
- National Partnership for Women and Families
- Pacific Business Group on Health (PBGH)
- The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS)

AQA Supporting Organizations

- AFL-CIO
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Medical Group Management Association (MGMA)
- National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA)
- National Quality Forum (NQF)

Workgroups

- Performance Measurement
- Data Sharing and Aggregation
- Reporting

Performance Measure WG

- April 2006: “Starter Set” of 26 measures
- Acute/Chronic Care workgroup
- Surgery/Procedures workgroup
- Cost of Care workgroup
- Guidance for selecting measures
- Over 120 approved measures currently

Reporting WG

- Principles for public reports
- Principles for reporting to clinicians and hospitals

Data Sharing and Aggregation WG

- Pilots
- Health Data Stewardship Entity
- RFI

AQA Pilots...or BQI

- Key elements
 - Assess clinical quality, cost of care, and patient experience
 - Understanding structural capacity as a covariate to assess physician performance
 - Collect and aggregate Medicare claims data and private sector data from multiple sources and (where possible) Medicaid data
 - Explore both existing and new methods for collecting, submitting, and sharing data from physicians medical practices
 - Leverage the experience of existing aggregation efforts
 - Disseminate measurement information

Individual BQI Sites

- California Cooperative Healthcare Reporting Initiative
- Indiana Health Information Exchange
- Massachusetts Health Quality Partners
- MN Community Measurement
- Phoenix Regional Healthcare Value Measurement Initiative
- Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality

Health Data Stewardship

- Data Sharing and Aggregation Principles
- Characteristics of the National Health Data Stewardship Entity
- Federal Register RFI

Summary

- Broad based collaborative
- Physician performance measurement
- Data sharing and aggregation
- Public and provider reporting
- Measure selection process
- BQI projects
- Data Stewardship RFI