

Project Title: Health Information Technology Enablement of Quality Measurement: Health Information Technology Expert Panel

Principal Investigator: Rosenthal, Daniel

Organization: National Quality Foundation

Contract Number: 290-07-10017-3

Project Period: 6/08 - 6/10

AHRQ Funding Amount: \$526,927

Summary Status as of: December 2008

Strategic Goal: Develop and disseminate health IT evidence and evidence-based tools to improve health care decisionmaking through the use of integrated data and knowledge management.

Business Goal: Synthesis and Dissemination

Summary: This project consists of two primary workgroups. The Quality Data Set Workgroup has convened an expert panel to help guide the development of recommendations to further quality measurement using health information technology (IT) and uses the panel's expertise to develop materials concerning health IT standards, capabilities, and quality measurement. The project builds on prior work at the National Quality Forum (NQF) completed under direction of the Health IT Expert Panel (HITEP). The NQF has organized the HITEP for a meeting in February 2009 to gather, synthesize, and refine clinical workflow maps, focusing on care processes related to the previously prioritized set of measures. In addition, the NQF is conducting an environmental scan; drafting a set of quality measures that are automated, patient-centered, and longitudinal; and developing recommendations to the Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel on data standards.

The Workflow Workgroup will define the workflow to manage electronic health information to enable expected patient care while decreasing the information seeking and documentation burden for individual clinicians. The work product will define the qualitative and quantitative aspects of data by examining quality data flow maps. Such quality data management will address three requirements for data: the authoritative source, the methods for attribution of accountability at the source of the data, and the method of transit.

Specific Aims

- Represent quality data requirements (concepts, data types, data elements, code sets) unambiguously and specifically. **(Ongoing)**
- Determine mechanisms and opportunities within quality data management workflows for identifying patients who are eligible for inclusion in measure populations, gathering performance measurement data, and providing clinical decision support to optimize performance in targeted areas. **(Ongoing)**

2008 Activities: The Quality Dataset Workgroup built on the work of a prior HITEP project that developed data categories and types to be studied. Under this contract, the HITEP explored the relevant medical concepts and test value thresholds relevant to these data types with the intention of exploring collaborative design session (CDS) design. The Workflow Workgroup developed a framework for measuring workflow performance to encourage new measure development that enables comparison of performance among multiple sites.

Preliminary Impact and Findings: None available.

Selected Outputs

None available.