



Overview of the Endorsement Meeting Procedures

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January 11, 2024

The analyses upon which this publication is based were performed under Contract Number 75FCMC23C0010, entitled, "National Consensus Development and Strategic Planning for Health Care Quality Measurement," sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Welcome



Today's Presenters



Nicole Brennan | Executive Director



- Provides strategic and operational oversight.
- 20+ years healthcare, public health and quality experience

Brenna Rabel | Deputy Director



- Facilitates collaboration across E&M, PRMR & MSR, and CQMC to ensure consistency & excellence in CBE activities
- 10+ years healthcare, public health & quality experience

Matthew Pickering | E&M Technical Lead



- Oversees endorsement & management processes
- 10+ years quality experience

Jeff Geppert | Senior Research Leader



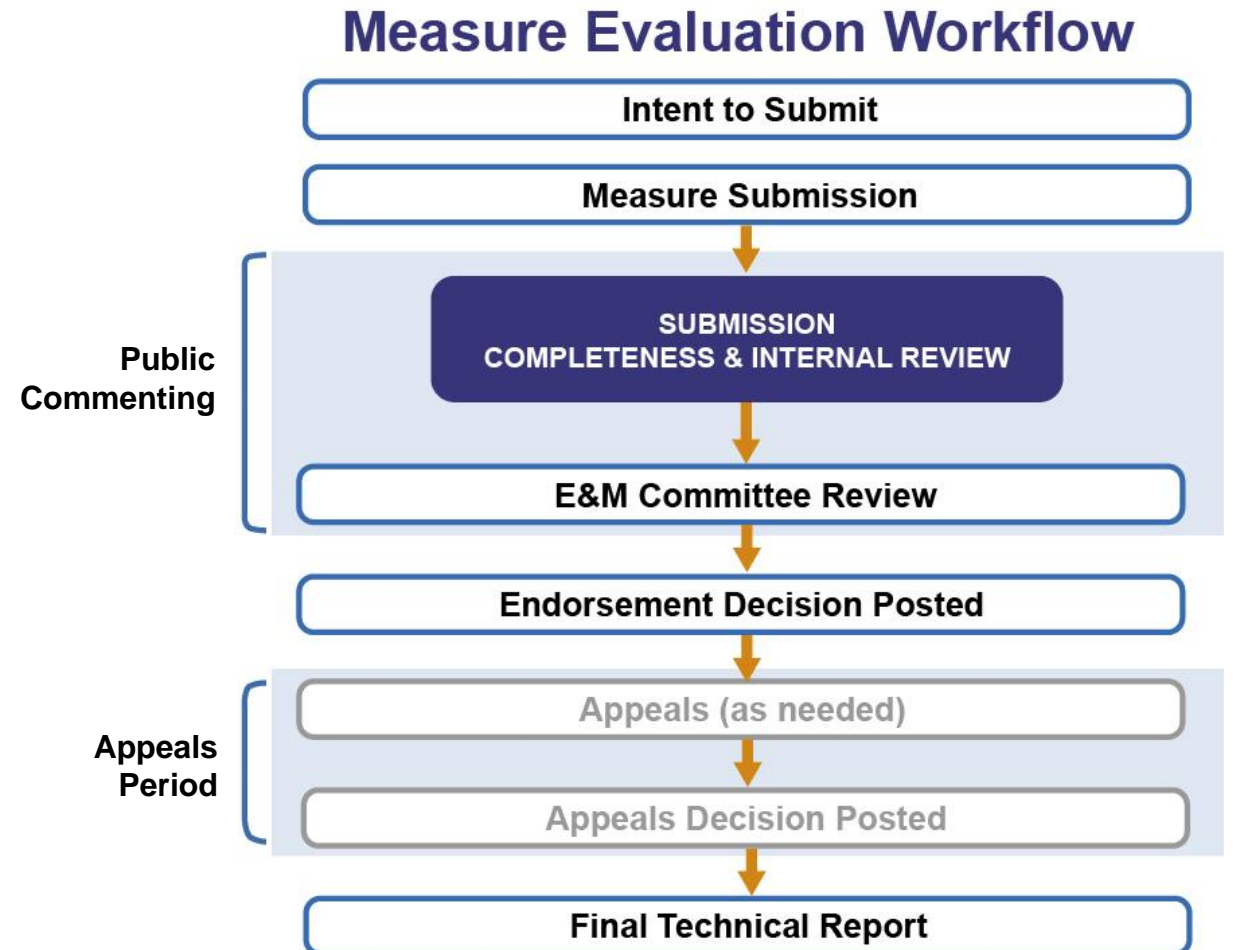
- Leads Measurement Science team for E&M
- 25+ years measurement science, healthcare & quality experience

Fall 2023 Process

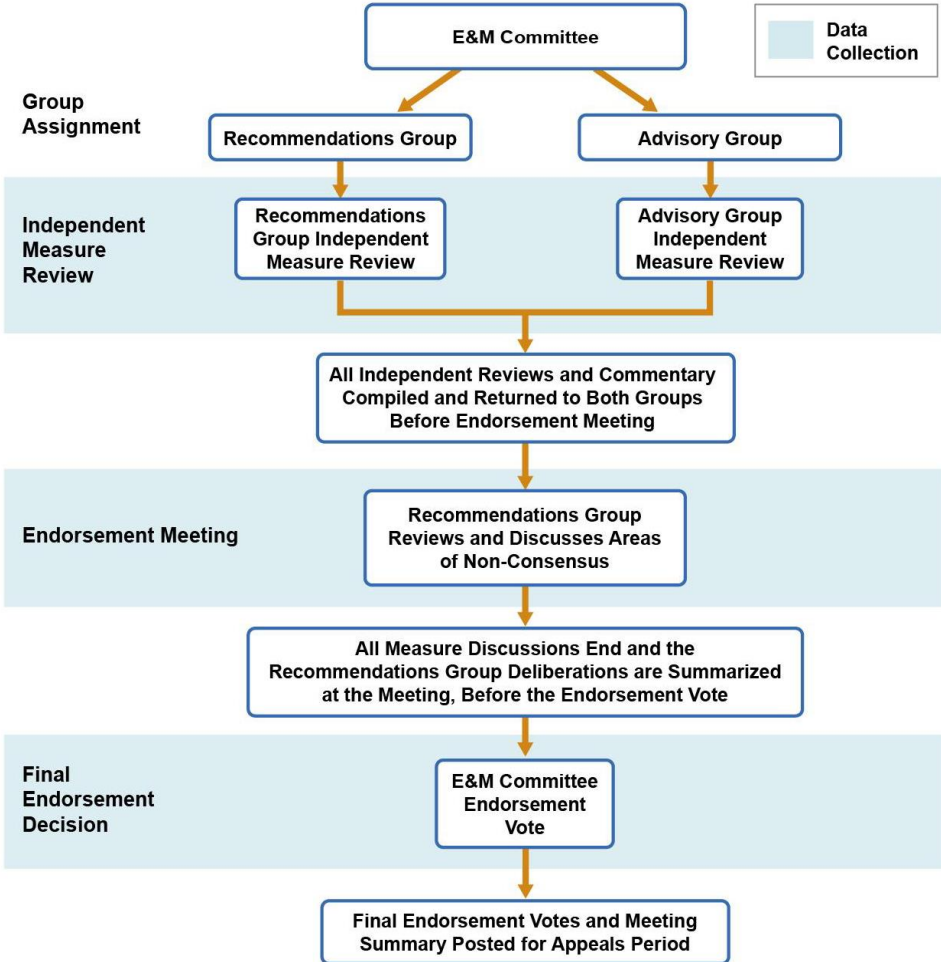


Six major steps:

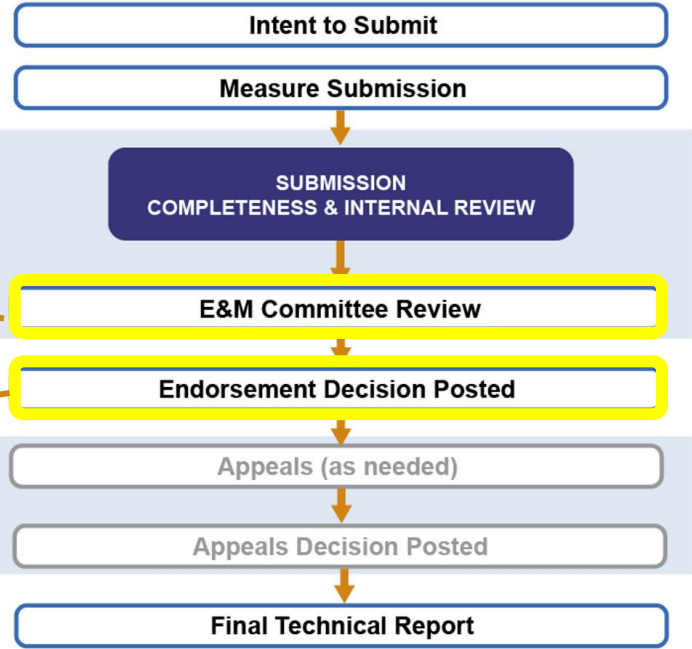
1. Intent to Submit
2. Full Measure Submission
3. Staff Internal Review and Measure Public Comment Period
4. E&M Committee Independent Review
5. Endorsement Decision
6. Appeals Period (as warranted)



E&M Independent Review vs. Endorsement Meeting



Measure Evaluation Workflow



Meeting Purpose and Agenda



Purpose

To review the endorsement meeting procedures, including roles of the Advisory and Recommendations groups and co-chairs, voting procedures, public comment opportunities, and expectations for subject matter experts and measure developer/steward participation.

Agenda

- Overview of the endorsement meeting objectives, agenda, and Zoom platform
- Review roll call, disclosures of interest, and quorum procedures
- Overview of evaluation procedures, voting, and participant roles
- Questions
- Adjourn

Overview of the Endorsement Meeting Objectives, Agenda, and Zoom Platform



Endorsement Meeting Objectives



The purpose of the endorsement meeting is to:

- Review and discuss candidate measures submitted to the project committee for the given cycle;
- Review public comments received for the submitted candidate measures; and
- Render endorsement decisions for the submitted candidate measures.

Housekeeping Reminders for Recommendations Group*



- The system will allow you to mute/unmute yourself and turn your video on/off throughout the event
- Please raise your hand and unmute yourself when called on
- Please lower your hand and mute yourself following your question/comment
- Please state your first and last name if you are a Call-In User
- We encourage you to keep your video on throughout the event
- Feel free to use the chat feature to communicate with Battelle staff
- If you are experiencing technical issues, please contact the project team via chat on the virtual platform or at PQMsupport@battelle.org.

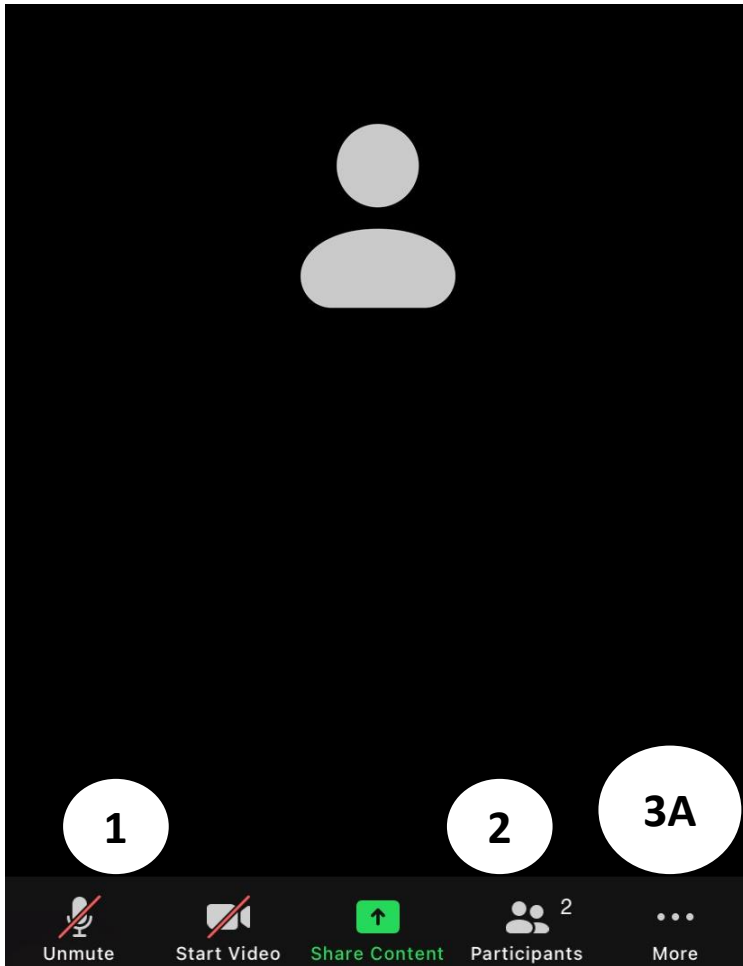
Using the Zoom Platform



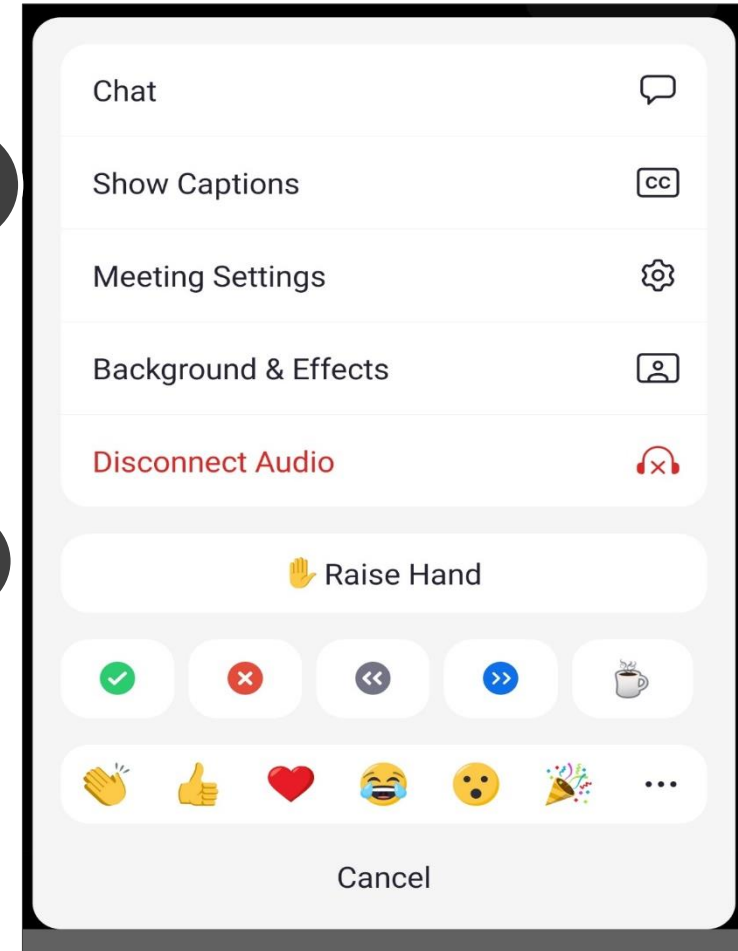
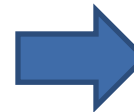
The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, there are two video thumbnails: 'Host' on the left and 'Attendee 2' on the right. The 'Attendee 2' thumbnail is highlighted with a yellow border. Below the thumbnails is a large 'Attendee' label. At the bottom, there is a toolbar with various icons. Three numbered callouts are present: 1. A white circle with the number '1' pointing to the bottom toolbar. 2. A white circle with the number '2' pointing to the 'Participants' button in the bottom toolbar. 3. A white circle with the number '3' pointing to the 'Reactions' menu, specifically the 'Raise Hand' option.

- 1 Click the lower part of your screen to mute/unmute, start, or pause video
- 2 Click on the participant or chat button to access the full participant list or the chat box
- 3 To raise your hand, select the raised hand function under the reactions tab

Using the Zoom Platform (Phone View)



- 1 Click the lower part of your screen to mute/unmute, start or pause video
- 2 Click on the participant button to view the full participant list
- 3 Click on “more” button to (3A) view the chat box, (3B) show closed captions, or to (3C) raise your hand. To raise your hand, select the raised hand function under the reactions tab



Meeting Ground Rules



- Be prepared, having reviewed the meeting materials beforehand
- Respect all voices
- Remain engaged and actively participate
- Base your evaluation and recommendations on the measure evaluation rubric
- Keep your comments concise and focused
- Be respectful and allow others to contribute
- Share your experiences
- Learn from others

Agenda



- Welcome and Review of Meeting Objectives
- Roll Call with Disclosures of Interest
- Overview of Evaluation Procedures and Measures for Endorsement Consideration
- Test Vote
- Evaluation of Candidate Measures
- Additional Measure Recommendations Discussion (if time permits)
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- Next Steps
- Adjourn

Review Roll Call, Disclosures of Interest, and Quorum



Quorum



- Meeting quorum requires that 60% of the Recommendations Group members are present during roll call at the beginning of the meeting.
- Endorsement decisions are rendered via a vote after Recommendations Group discussions. Voting quorum is at least 80% of active committee members (Recommendations Group + Advisory Group), who are not recused.



E&M Project Committee



Recommendations Group:

- First and Last Name, Credentials
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Advisory Group:

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Subject Matter Experts*



- **Topic Area #1**

- First and Last Name, Credentials
- First and Last Name, Credentials

- **Topic Area #2**

- First and Last Name, Credentials
- First and Last Name, Credentials

- **Topic Area #3**

- First and Last Name, Credentials

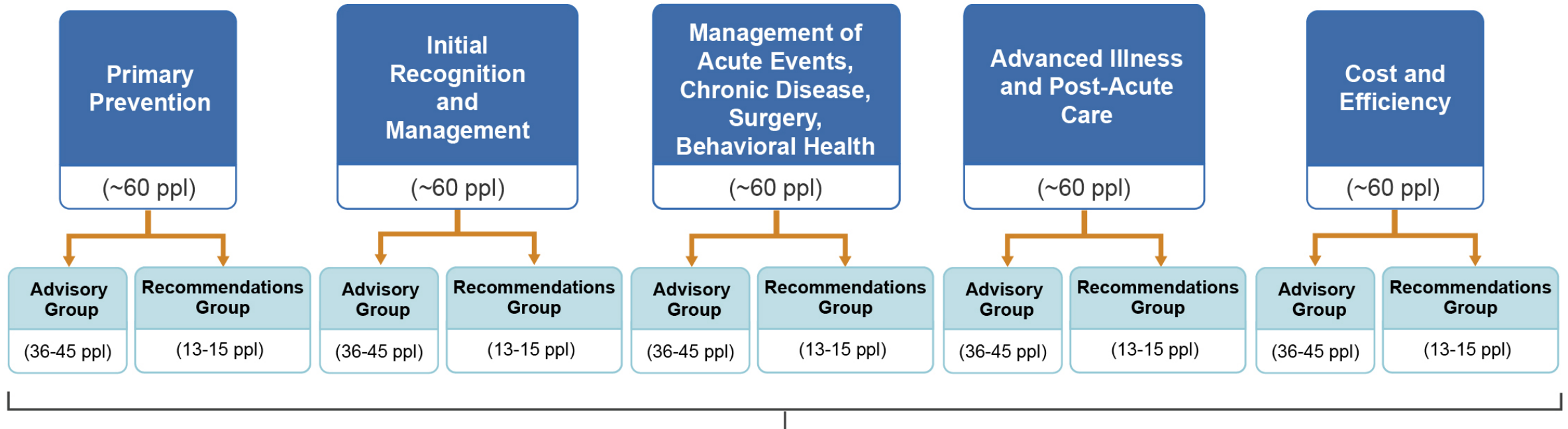
*Subject matter experts (SMEs) serve as a non-voting participants to provide relevance and context to the committee's measure endorsement review and discussions.

SMEs review the relevant measure(s) prior to the endorsement meeting and attend the endorsement meeting to provide input on and answer committee questions regarding the measure's clinical relevance, the supporting evidence, inclusion and exclusion criteria, measure validity, and risk adjustment or stratification approach (if applicable).

Overview of Evaluation Procedures



E&M Committee Structure



- Advisory and Recommendations Groups provide individual preliminary reviews in advance of Endorsement Meeting
- Recommendations Group meets to review and discuss areas of non-consensus based on independent preliminary reviews and public comment
 - Both Groups vote on final endorsement decision

Advisory and Recommendations Groups



Advisory (Delphi) Group

- Members in this group **review and provide ratings and written recommendations on measures** prior to the Recommendations Group endorsement meeting.
- These inputs ensure that a larger number of voices contribute to the consensus-building process.
- The Advisory Group members **attend the Recommendations Group endorsement meeting** to listen to the Recommendations Group discussions and to **vote on endorsement decisions for measures** at the end of the meeting.

Recommendations (Nominal) Group

- Members in this group also **review and provide ratings and written recommendations on measures** prior to the Recommendations Group endorsement meeting.
- **Areas of disagreement** (i.e., lack of consensus) identified from the initial measure ratings from both groups will **inform the Recommendations Group discussions during the endorsement meeting**.
- Recommendations Group members will also **vote on endorsement decisions of measures** at the end of the meeting.

Roles and Responsibilities of Committee Members



During your term on the committee, you will:

- Work with Battelle staff to evaluate and endorse measures.
- Participate in scheduled calls and endorsement meetings.
- Review relevant E&M materials (e.g., measure submission, public comments, staff assessments) in advance of the endorsement meetings.
- Conduct independent measure reviews using the PQM Measure Evaluation Rubric by established deadlines.
- Complete disclosure of interest forms.
- Notify the E&M Project Team (via PQM@Battelle.org) if you:
 - Change employers and/or contact information
 - Have a significant, prolonged conflict of interest emerge
 - Are unable to attend a scheduled meeting⁺
 - You wish to resign or be moved to inactive status⁺⁺



⁺If a committee member has poor attendance or participation, as determined by not attending one or more endorsement meetings without advanced notice and/or by not submitting independent reviews of measures for endorsement review, the committee member may be asked to resign, or their term may be ended early.

⁺⁺E&M committee members with inactive status continue with their terms, but they are not active committee participants for a given cycle. A committee member may be granted inactive status at any time before the endorsement meeting.

Roles of the Committee During the Endorsement Meeting



- **Evaluate** each measure against each domain of the Partnership for Quality Measurement Measure Evaluation Rubric
- **Indicate** the extent to which each criterion is met and the rationale for the rating
- **Review** comments submitted during the public comment period
- **Render endorsement decisions** for candidate measures



Roles of the Committee Co-Chairs During the Endorsement Meeting



Collaborate
with Battelle

- | | Collaborate with Battelle |
|--|---------------------------|
| • Co-facilitate virtual endorsement meetings, along with Battelle staff | ● |
| • Participate on the committee as a full voting member for the entirety of your term | |
| • Serve on the Appeals committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Includes attending the half- to full-day virtual Appeals committee meeting at the end of every E&M cycle (contingent upon whether an appeal is received) | |
| • Work with Battelle staff to achieve the goals of the project | ● |
| • Assist Battelle staff in anticipating questions and identifying additional information that may be useful to the committee | ● |

Roles of the Committee Co-Chairs During the Endorsement Meeting, *continued 1*



Patient Representative Co-Chair

Ensure the patient community voice is considered



Non-Patient Representative Co-Chair

Ensure the Advisory group voice is considered

Evaluation and Voting Process

Non-consensus Measures



Step	Description	Interested Party
1	<p>Introduction of the measure in which consensus was lacking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the PQM Rubric domain rating results from the committee independent assessments and a summary of the committee's independent review, noting both strengths and limitations, and any potential conditions, as appropriate. • Summation of any public comments received prior to the endorsement meeting. 	Battelle Staff
2	<p>Floor is open for any additional public comments with respect to the measure under review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenters are kindly asked to keep their comments to two (2) minutes or less. • The committee does not respond directly to commenters, rather comments are shared for the committee's endorsement discussion. 	Battelle Staff and Co-chairs
3	<p>Three-to-five (3-5) minute, high-level overview of the measure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenters will kindly be asked to stop presenting if the time is over five (5) minutes. • Please refrain from using slides or screensharing of materials. • Overview may include initial Responses to committee independent reviews and/or public comments 	Developer and/or Steward

Evaluation and Voting Process

Non-consensus Measures, continued 1



Step	Description	Interested Party
4	<p>Round-robin for clarifying questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-patient representative co-chair to confirm whether questions from A-group members (via independent assessments) have been considered. • Patient representative co-chair to confirm whether the patient partner questions have been considered. • After all questions have been collected, the developer/steward addresses measure-specific questions. 	<p>R-group discusses A-group listens</p> <p>Battelle Staff to facilitate with Co-chairs</p>
5	<p>Committee discussion of the measure elements in which consensus was lacking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitated discussion measure strengths and limitations based on PQM Measure Evaluation Rubric domain. • Determine potential resolutions that lead to committee consensus and any recommendations placed on the measure for the developer/steward to consider in the future. • The developer/steward may respond to questions posed by the committee. • Subject matter experts (SMEs) are called upon, accordingly, to address committee questions and to provide context and relevance about the measure for to the committee's consideration. 	<p>R-group discusses A-group listens</p> <p>Battelle Staff to facilitate with Co-chairs</p> <p>Developer and/or Steward</p> <p>SMEs</p>

R-group: Recommendations group; A-group: Advisory group

Evaluation and Voting Process

Non-consensus Measures, continued 2



Step	Description	Interested Party
6	Responses to committee discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• After the committee discussion has concluded, prior to voting, the developer/steward is given a final opportunity to respond to the committee's discussion before the committee moves to a vote on endorsement.• Please try to keep responses brief, referring to information in the measure submission, as appropriate.• Please refrain from using slides or screensharing of materials.	Developer and/or Steward
7	Committee vote <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any conditions or recommendations are summarized prior to voting.• If consensus is not reached, based on the 75% threshold, the measure is not endorsed.	R-group and A-group Battelle Staff and Co-chairs summarize voting conditions

Evaluation and Voting Process

Conditions for Voting Example



Step	Description	Interested Party
7	Committee vote <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any conditions or recommendations are summarized prior to voting.If consensus is not reached, based on the 75% threshold, the measure is not endorsed.	R-group and A-group Battelle Staff and Co-chairs summarize voting conditions

Example: Some committee members raised concern with the measure testing occurring in only two or three U.S. states and recommended to see additional testing across a larger, more generalizable population, then:

- A vote to **Endorse** the measure means the committee agrees that the evidence provided to support the measure fully substantiates the measure claims.
- A vote to **Endorse with Conditions**, means the committee agrees that the evidence provided to support the measure doesn't fully substantiate the measure claims due to limited testing within 2-3 states. Therefore, the committee votes to endorse the measure with the condition that additional testing across a larger, more generalizable population be conducted by the next maintenance review.
- A vote to **Not Endorse/have Endorsement Removed**, means the committee agrees that the evidence provided to support the measure does not substantiate the claims for scientific acceptability due to the limited testing in only 2-3 U.S. states. Therefore, the committee raised concern with respect to the generalizability of the testing results. In addition, there are no reasonable changes to the measure (e.g., specifications, testing, evidence) that would allow the measure to receive conditional endorsement.

Evaluation and Voting Process

Consensus Measures



Step	Description	Interested Party
1	<p>Introduction of the measure in which consensus was lacking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the PQM Rubric domain rating results from the committee independent assessments and a summary of the committee's independent review, noting both strengths and limitations, and any potential conditions, as appropriate. • Summation of any public comments received prior to the endorsement meeting. 	Battelle Staff
2	<p>Floor is open for any additional public comments with respect to the measure under review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenters are kindly asked to keep their comments to two (2) minutes or less. • The committee does not respond directly to commenters, rather comments are shared for the committee's endorsement discussion. 	Battelle Staff and Co-chairs
3a	<p>Committee discussion of measures with <u>consensus to endorse</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm the measure strengths outweigh any limitations identified • Confirm if any conditions for endorsement • Co-chairs confirm the Advisory Group and the patient community voice have been considered (via independent assessments) 	<p>R-group discusses A-group listens</p> <p>Battelle Staff to facilitate with Co-chairs</p>

Evaluation and Voting Process

Consensus Measures, continued 1



Step	Description	Interested Party
3b	<p>Committee discussion of measures with <u>consensus to not endorse/remove endorsement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm the measure limitations outweigh the strengths • Identify potential recommendations for the developer to improve the limitations • Co-chairs confirm the Advisory Group and the patient community voice have been considered (via independent assessments) • After the committee discussion, the developer/steward is given the opportunity to respond to the committee's review and discussion. 	<p>R-group discusses A-group listens</p> <p>Battelle Staff to facilitate with Co-chairs</p> <p>Developer and/or Steward</p>
4	<p>Committee vote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any conditions or recommendations are summarized prior to voting. • If consensus is not reached, based on the 75% threshold, the measure is not endorsed. 	<p>R-group and A-group</p> <p>Battelle Staff and Co-chairs summarize voting conditions</p>

Endorsement Decision Outcomes



Decision Outcome	Description	Maintenance Expectations
Endorsed	<p>Applies to new and maintenance measures.</p> <p>There is 75% or greater agreement for endorsement by the E&M committee</p>	<p>Measures undergo maintenance of endorsement reviews every 5 years with an annual update review at 3 years.</p>
Endorsed with Conditions	<p>Applies to new and maintenance measures.</p> <p>There is 75% or greater agreement that the measure can be endorsed as it meets the criteria, but there are recommendations/areas committee reviewers would like to see when the measure comes back for maintenance. If these recommendations are not addressed, then a rationale from the developer/steward should be provided for consideration by the E&M committee review.</p>	<p>Measures undergo maintenance of endorsement reviews every 5 years with an annual update at 3 years, unless the condition requires the measure to be reviewed earlier. The E&M committee evaluates whether conditions have been met, in addition to all other maintenance endorsement minimum requirements.</p>
Not Endorsed	<p>Applies to new measures only. There is 75% or greater agreement to not endorse the measure by the E&M committee.</p>	<p>None</p>
Endorsement Removed	<p>Applies to maintenance measures only. Either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is 75% or greater agreement for endorsement removal by the E&M committee; or • A measure steward retires a measure (i.e., no longer pursues endorsement); or • A measure steward never submits a measure for maintenance and there is no response from the steward after targeted outreach; or • There is no longer a meaningful gap in care, or the measure has plateaued (i.e., no significant change in measure results for accountable entities over time) 	<p>None</p>

Decision Outcomes:

Endorsed with Conditions



The types of conditions that may be placed on a measure include but are not limited to:

- Conducting/providing additional testing across a larger population, accountable entity-level, and/or different level of analysis
- Expanding the measure use beyond quality improvement and into an accountability application

Battelle has identified several non-negotiable areas, meaning if a measure meets one or more of the following criteria, the measure cannot be endorsed, even with conditions:

- Lack of or unclear business case
- Lack of evidence supporting the business case
- Poor feasibility for the measure to be implemented due to challenges, e.g., data availability or missingness
- Inappropriate methodology, calculations, formulas, or testing approach used to demonstrate reliability or validity
- Specifications, testing approach, results, or data descriptions are insufficient
- If a measure with an “Endorsed with Conditions” designation is evaluated for maintenance, but it has not met the prior conditions

What is the PQM Measure Evaluation Rubric?



The PQM Measure Evaluation Rubric (Rubric) consists of five (5) major domains:

- 1. Importance** - Extent to which the measure is evidence-based AND is important for making significant gains in health care quality or cost where there is variation in or overall, less-than-optimal performance.
- 2. Feasibility** - Extent to which the measure specifications (i.e., numerator, denominator, exclusions) require data that are readily available OR could be captured without undue burden AND can be implemented for performance measurement.
- 3. Scientific Acceptability [i.e., Reliability and Validity]** - Extent to which the measure, as specified, produces consistent (reliable) and credible (valid) results about the quality of care when implemented.
- 4. Equity (optional)** - Extent to which the measure can identify differences in care for certain patient populations, which can be used to advance health equity and reduce disparities in care.
- 5. Use and Usability** - Extent to which potential audiences (e.g., consumers, purchasers, providers, and policymakers) are using or could use measure results for both accountability and performance improvement to achieve the goal of high quality, efficient health care for individuals or populations.

Consensus Voting for Final Determinations



Endorse (A)	Endorse with Conditions (B)	Do Not Endorse (C)	Consensus Voting Status
75% or More	0%	Less than 25%	A
75% or More		Less than 25%	B
Less than 25%		75% or More	C
26% to 74%		26% to 74%	No consensus

If no consensus is reached, based on the 75% threshold, the measure is not endorsed.

Next Steps



Next Steps for Fall 2023



Meeting Summary

- Meeting summary will be posted to the E&M committee project page by February 26, 2024.



Appeals Period

- **Appeals Period:** February 26 – March 18
- Appeals committee will meet on March 27, 2024 to review eligible appeals. Please refer to the [E&M Guidebook](#) for more information about the appeals process.



Technical Report

- At the conclusion of the appeals period, a final technical report will be posted to the E&M Committee project page in April 2024.

Questions



Thank You!

Have questions? Contact us at
PQMsupport@battelle.org





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Quality Measurement

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