

## **TEP Project Overview**

### **Measure and Instrument Development and Support (MIDS), Development of New Nursing Home Quality Measures**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has contracted with RTI International to develop several new nursing home quality measures for public reporting for both short-stay and long-stay nursing home residents. The measures being considered for further development at this time are:

- Re-hospitalization rates (30 day)
- Potentially Avoidable Re-hospitalization (heart failure, respiratory infection, UTI, sepsis, and electrolyte imbalance)
- Discharge to community
- Injurious falls
- Acquired infections
- Effective pain management
- Nutrition (low BMI and undesired weight loss or obesity)
- Hydration (fluid management):
- Health disparities
- Diabetes management
- Improvement in ambulation
- Improvements in ADL function
- Use of restraints
- Catheter use
- Delirium resolution

The purpose of the project is to develop measures that can be used as metrics for care quality provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

#### **Specific objectives of the MIDS contract include:**

- Reevaluating existing measures
- Developing new measures
- Evaluating to the performance of new and proposed measures

#### **The development process includes:**

- Identifying important quality goals related to Medicare services
- Conducting literature reviews and grading evidence
- Defining and developing specifications for each quality measure
- Obtaining evaluation of proposed measures by technical expert panels
- Posting for public comment
- Testing measure ease and accuracy of collection
- Refining measures as needed

For more information about the measure development/reevaluation processes refer to the Measure Management System Blueprint documentation available on the link in the left navigation bar.

A TEP of approximately 15-20 individuals will recommend whether the individual new measures drafted by RTI International have merit based on the four measure evaluation criteria (importance, scientific acceptability, feasibility, and usability). These criteria are used by CMS and the National Quality Forum. The TEP will make recommendations regarding measure specification, inclusion and exclusion criteria, and appropriate risk adjusters for the proposed measures. The TEP will be comprised of individuals with the following areas of expertise and perspectives:

- Topic Knowledge: short-stay and long-stay nursing home resident populations, re-hospitalization to acute care facilities, potentially avoidable hospitalizations, nutrition, discharge to community, injurious falls, acquired infections, effective pain management, hydration, health disparities, improvement in ambulation, improvements in ADL function, use of restraints, catheter use, diabetes management, delirium, and the Minimum Data Set.
- Performance Measurement
- Risk Adjustment of Performance Measures
- Quality Improvement
- Consumer perspective
- Purchaser Perspective
- Health Care Disparities

All potential TEP members must disclose any current and past activities that may pose a potential conflict of interest for performing the tasks required of the TEP.

Technical Expert Panel Expected Time Commitment:

The TEP will meet in Baltimore on October 26, 2009 - October 27, 2009. In addition to meeting in Baltimore, TEP members will review materials provided in advance, complete voting forms explaining the rationale for each recommendation, participate in follow-up conference calls, and be available for follow-up communications to clarify their responses or gain additional input.

#### **TEP Nomination:**

Self-nominations are welcome. Third-party nominations must indicate that the individual has been contacted and is willing to serve.

#### **Required Information:**

- A completed nomination form
- Confirmation of availability to participate in calls and meetings as outlined above
- A letter of interest (not to exceed two pages), highlighting experience/knowledge relevant to the expertise described above and involvement in measure development
- Curriculum vitae and/or list of relevant experience (e.g., publications) a maximum of 10 pages
- Disclosure of potential conflict of interest

The TEP Nomination and Disclosure Form can be found in the Download section of this page. If you wish to nominate yourself or other individual for consideration, complete the form and e-mail to [tepnominations@rti.org](mailto:tepnominations@rti.org). Please include letter of interest and curriculum vitae/list of relevant experience.

Thank you for helping CMS to improve the quality of care for all Americans.