

ASC QC Update April 5, 2007

The ASC Quality Collaboration has begun the process of seeking endorsement of its ASC quality measures through the National Quality Forum (NQF).

The NQF's Ambulatory Surgery Center Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) met in Washington, DC on February 27, 2007. The panel, which included eight members with ASC experience, evaluated a total of nineteen potential ASC quality measures.

Several organizations submitted proposed quality measures for consideration by the TAP.

Submitters included the ASC Quality Collaboration, the National Committee for Quality Assurance (in conjunction with the American Medical Association's Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement), as well as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

In addition to the facility-level measures of ASC quality, the TAP also reviewed physician-level measures which address various aspects of perioperative care provided in the ASC setting.

These ASC quality measures will next be further evaluated by the NQF Steering Committee on June 4, 2007.

The Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 mandates that ASCs report quality measures for services provided to Medicare patients beginning January 1, 2009.

About the ASC Quality Collaboration

The ASC Quality Collaboration is dedicated to advancing high quality, physician-led and patient-centered care in ambulatory surgery centers. For more information, please contact the ASC Quality Collaboration's Executive Director, Donna Slosburg, at donnaslosburg@ASCQuality.org