An Overview: PCPI’s Measurement Science Consulting Services

Widely recognized as a leader in evidence-based clinical performance measurement, the PCPI® Foundation, formerly the American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®, has built a portfolio of more than 300 measures that span 47 topic areas.

PCPI measures, which have been adopted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and are used by health plans and health systems across the country, have been created in partnership with our member organizations. This collaborative approach remains a hallmark of our consulting services and the driving force we can put to work in tailoring solutions that address your performance measurement needs.

Committed to improving health and the quality of health care, the PCPI blends unmatched experience, knowledge and expertise in offering one or any combination of the following services to our clients.

**Measure design and advancement**

Measure design and advancement includes the initial important groundwork and project management necessary to develop new measures and revise existing measures.

**Services available**

- Review the evidence, performance gaps and the measure landscape
- Guide the development of measure concepts and evidence-based design or revision of measure components (e.g., numerator, denominator, exclusions, exceptions)
- Convene and facilitate meetings of a multidisciplinary technical expert panel (TEP)
- Host and manage the solicitation and TEP review of public comments
“Triple Aim” of health care reform

Achievement of the nation’s triple aim of health care reform—better patient care, improved population health and lower cost—depends on performance improvement and accountability. Health care professionals need quality measures to fulfill that commitment and successfully participate in performance-based programs.

Measure specification

Measure specification is the science of translating a performance measure into technical requirements to identify the information required to implement performance measures. PCPI staff will analyze your measure specification needs, make focused recommendations, and provide a variety of services customized to meet your measure development goals and objectives.

Services available

- Develop state-of-the-art measure specifications, in adherence with national standards
- Consult on use of clinical vocabularies (e.g., SNOMED CT, RxNorm, LOINC)
- Provide technical assistance for e-measure specification tools such as the Measure Authoring Tool, Quality Data Model, Clinical Quality Language and the CMS Measures Management System Blueprint
- Oversee annual measure maintenance

Measure testing

Health practitioners, providers, endorsers and adopters of performance measures demand measures that are reliable, valid and feasible to collect. PCPI staff is available to provide expertise and services tailored to your measure testing needs.

Services available

- Consult on services for identification of appropriate testing methods and test plan design
- Consult on testing site solicitation and IRB submission
- Develop testing tools, including but not limited to feasibility assessments, data request forms, and data collection forms
- Statistical analyses to demonstrate measure reliability and validity

Guidance on National Quality Forum submissions

Many organizations prefer measures endorsed by the National Quality Forum (NQF). The PCPI offers a range of services related to measure submission to NQF for endorsement consideration.

Services available

- Complete the required submission form, demonstrating measure adherence to NQF’s endorsement criteria
- Represent clients at NQF committee meetings and throughout the measure review process

Stewardship of measures for endorsement and adoption

The CMS, the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) and other federal agencies recognize the importance of quality measures in national programs. The PCPI staff has the requisite quality measure expertise to meet your needs related to the submission or maintenance of measures for these programs.

Services available

- Manage submission of measures for consideration in government programs such as the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)
- Manage annual maintenance of specifications for measures adopted by government programs, particularly the MIPS program
- Monitor and report on the activities of key standards-setting committees and consensus-based organizations like the NQF and the ONC

Contact us at Marjorie.Rallins@thepcpi.org or (312) 224-6076 to learn more about what PCPI Consulting Services can do for you and how we can tailor our experience and expertise to meet your performance measurement needs.