

## Principles for the Development of a National Performance Measurement Data Strategy

### **A national performance measurement data system should:**

#### **A. Have the following qualities and characteristics:**

- Be a credible source of high-quality, actionable, timely data.
- Embrace transparency and engender trust.
- Include a strategy for raising consumer awareness of the availability of publicly reported performance data and its benefits.
- Assure that the data and information provided are comprehensible to consumers at all literacy levels.
- Serve as a useful source for improving the quality and safety of care.
- Encourage the rapid adoption of information technology across all health care settings.
- Foster accountabilities among practitioners, provider organizations, payers, purchasers, patients, and communities for continuous improvement in performance.
- Be assured sustainable funding from public and private-sector sources.

#### **B. Accommodate the following needs:**

- Provide for performance measurement and data gathering at the patient, practitioner, provider organization, and population levels.
- Minimize the data collection burden at all levels of the system.
- Permit comparative data portrayals that are useful in supporting clinical decision-making, performance improvement, incentive payment programs, and consumer decision-making.
- Foster the utilization of performance measures – and particularly outcomes measures that are linked to evidence-based process measures – that address national quality goals and

high-impact, high-cost clinical conditions, including chronic diseases.

- Effectively protect patient privacy while also assuring broad access to meaningful and relevant performance data as a public good.
- Address information needs across the continuum of care so as to provide a longitudinal view of the quality and safety of patient care.
- Permit overviews of performance at the national level, as well as at regional and local levels.

#### **C. Include the following design characteristics:**

- Have an infrastructure that is based on common, interoperable information technology architecture.
- Utilize standardized, quality-controlled methods for gathering, validating, and aggregating performance data.
- Have as its locus an existing or new entity that provides effective stewardship for the system, and whose oversight actively involves public and private sector leaders.
- Permit the transmission of data from, and across, multiple databases.
- Provide for the establishment of consensus “rules of the road” respecting transparency and data access.
- Utilize an effective system for linking and matching patient records that protects patient privacy while also permitting expanded portrayals of practitioner and provider performance.
- Be in conformance with and support the data standards being developed through the National Health Information Network that will eventually permit the collection of performance measurement data as a byproduct of care delivery.