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Performance Measure Initiative Announces Town Hall Format June Webinar Series

EMS COMPASS SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT IN PERFORMANCE MEASURE DEVELOPMENT

FALLS CHURCH, Va., June 1, 2015— EMS Compass, a national initiative to improve systems of care through meaningful performance measurement, will host a series of webinars June 15-18, 2015. The webinars are the best way for members of the EMS community and other stakeholders to provide feedback on the quality and performance measures topics under consideration for further development and testing.

Throughout the month of May 2015, EMS Compass held an open “Call for Measures,” and more than 300 measures were submitted through the initiative website, emscompass.org. Now is the public’s chance to discuss the measures that were proposed and, within the context of the 10 domains, provide input that will help the EMS Compass team prioritize the clinical areas and topics addressed. This input will be used by the initiative to evaluate the measures based on criteria such as their importance for EMS to measure and report to their communities and patients, the ability of EMS systems to collect and analyze the data, and the evidence supporting the validity of the measure.

“Input from the entire EMS community allows us to ensure that the EMS Compass quality and performance measures will be relevant and useful for the diverse EMS systems we have across the nation,” said Bob Bass, M.D., Chair of the EMS Compass Steering Committee. “The result of this initiative will provide local EMS systems with a way to demonstrate their value in the community and quality for their patients leading to continuous improvement, resulting in high-quality patient care and safe, efficient services.”

The ten webinars will be organized by type of performance measure domain, or related area of interest. (For more information about the domains, see below.) Members of the EMS Compass Initiative will lead the webinars, which will focus on discussing the specific types of measures that have been proposed and receiving community input.

“The EMS Compass team has been very excited by the level of interest and participation from the entire EMS community,” said Dia Gainor, executive director of the National Association of State EMS Officials, which is managing the initiative.

Webinar schedule:

Patient and Family Engagement:	June 15, Noon EDT
Patient Safety:	June 15, 4 p.m. EDT
Care Coordination:	June 16, Noon EDT
Population/Public Health:	June 16, 2 p.m. EDT
Efficient Use of Healthcare Resources:	June 16, 4 p.m. EDT
Clinical Process/Effectiveness:	June 17, Noon EDT
EMS Workforce:	June 17, 2 p.m. EDT
EMS Fleet:	June 17, 4 p.m. EDT
EMS Data:	June 18, 2 p.m. EDT
EMS Finance:	June 18, 4 p.m. EDT

Learn more and register for a webinar at EMSCompass.org.

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About EMS Compass

The EMS Compass initiative launched in 2014 with funding and guidance provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) through a cooperative agreement with NASEMSO. Although funded as a two-year project, the goal of EMS Compass is not just to create and evaluate performance measures, but to develop a system for designing performance measures that can live on well beyond the timeline of the current initiative.

The EMS Compass performance measures will be based on the latest National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) compliant data points and will allow EMS agencies to use local and state data meaningfully to improve care.

For more information about EMS Compass or to volunteer to be involved in the national effort, sign up to receive updates at www.emscompass.org, and follow the initiative on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and Twitter (@EMSCompass).

About Domains of Measurement and Measures

As a nation, how can we improve our health and healthcare in the best and most rapid way? The National Quality Strategy (NQS) aims and goals set out a series of six priorities for focusing on this achievement. These priorities were:

- Making care safer by reducing harm caused in the delivery of care.
- Ensuring that each person and family is engaged as partners in their care.
- Promoting effective communication and coordination of care.

- Promoting the most effective prevention and treatment practices for the leading causes of mortality, starting with cardiovascular disease.
- Working with communities to promote wide use of best practices to enable healthy living.

The “triple aims” of the NQS, not to be confused with those of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, are used to guide and assess local, state, and national efforts to improve health and the quality of health care:

- **Better Care:** Improve the overall quality by making health care more patient-centered, reliable, accessible, and safe.
- **Healthy People/Healthy Communities:** Improve the health of the U.S. population by supporting proven interventions to address behavioral, social, and environmental determinants of health in addition to delivering higher-quality care.
- **Affordable Care:** Reduce the cost of quality health care for individuals, families, employers, and government.

These have resulted in the following 6 NQS domains that are largely healthcare-payer oriented:

1. Patient and Family Engagement
2. Patient Safety
3. Care Coordination
4. Population/Public Health
5. Efficient Use of Healthcare Resources
6. Clinical Process/Effectiveness

Initial efforts to identify EMS performance measures within the six NQS domains might include several of the examples listed below. To the extent that EMS requires additional domains to be inclusive of its many service delivery methods, we initially believe there are at least three EMS specific domains not previously contemplated by the NQS.

Domains	Example Possible Clinical Areas & Topics
Patient and Family Engagement	Customer satisfaction, parent/family involvement, patient experience
Patient Safety	Stretcher drop rate, adverse event rate, ambulance crash rate, deteriorating patient (early warning), infection control/hand hygiene
Care Coordination	Matching care to need, access
Population/Public Health	Volumes, symptoms onset to 911, requests per capita
Efficient Use of Healthcare Resources	Cost per capita/patient, tax dollars per capita, patient utilization rate, patient contact time reliability, crash scene time
Clinical Process/Effectiveness	Stroke, STEMI, SCA, trauma, RAD, sepsis, CHF, pain management, hypoglycemia, seizures, COPD, mental health, anaphylaxis , provider skill success rate

EMS Workforce*	Turnover/Retention, vacancy rate, productivity, Compensation Comparator, injury rate, lost work days rate, education, R&R, certification & licensure, safety (near miss reporting, policies, etc), provider safety
EMS Fleet*	Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) rates
EMS Data*	NEMIS submission rate, data integrity
EMS Finance*	Reimbursement rates

*EMS Convenience Domains that are outside the NQS/NQF original six but may prove to be necessary for EMS performance measurement.