Performance Measure Review

Enhancing Health Through Valid Performance Measures

The ACP Performance Measurement Committee (PMC) actively assesses the validity of performance measures used in payment, reporting, and quality improvement programs. Performance measures are evaluated across 5 distinct domains using a 9-point scale to determine whether they are evidence based, methodologically sound, and clinically meaningful.

Domains

1. **Importance**
   - The performance measure addresses a high-impact clinical condition, leads to meaningful improvement in clinical outcomes, and there is a current performance gap with opportunity for improvement.

2. **Appropriate Care**
   - The performance measure addresses an area where the benefits outweigh the harms (overuse or underuse), and the intervention time interval is evidence-based.

3. **Clinical Evidence Base**
   - Evidence supporting the performance measure is high-quality, high-quantity, consistent, and represents current clinical knowledge.

4. **Specifications**
   - The performance measure specifications are clearly defined. The performance measure correctly measures the intended action and/or outcome, the measurement is repeatable and precise, and the performance measure adequately distinguishes good and poor quality. Outcome measures also have appropriate risk-adjustment.

5. **Feasibility and Applicability**
   - The performance measure is under the physicians’ influence and data collection is feasible with an acceptable level of reporting burden. The performance measure ties outcomes to the appropriate unit of analysis and the results provide physicians with information to improve care.

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acponline.org/performancemeasures