ACP does not support NQF 0418: “Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan” because the denominator should reflect patients seen in the calendar year instead of all patients. Also, this measure is not supported by the current United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) guideline; “Depression in Adults: Screening”, that says that support services must be available before screening a patient for depression. USPSTF recommends against screening in the absence of a support system or follow-up services. In addition, this measure does not address frequency of screening for depression and it is not clear whether this measure applies to all patients in a providers’ panel or only those seen during the calendar year in a face-to-face visit.

Date Reviewed: April 27, 2015