

Pay-For Performance Glossary of Terms

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) – AHRQ is the nation’s lead federal agency for research on healthcare quality, costs, outcomes, and patient safety.

Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance (AQA) – An alliance composed of the American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Physicians, American’s Health Insurance Plans, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The goal of this alliance is to determine how to most effectively and efficiently improve performance measurement, data aggregation, and reporting in the ambulatory care setting.

Cost of Care – Total resource use by payers and consumers

Denominator – All eligible patients who should have received the prescribed treatment indicated by a particular measure

Efficiency of Care – Cost of care associated with specified level of quality

Institute of Medicine (IOM) – The Institute of Medicine serves as advisor to the nation to improve healthcare.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) – NCQA has helped to build consensus around important health care quality issues by working with large employers, policymakers, doctors, patients and health plans to decide what’s important, how to measure it, and how to promote improvement.

National Quality Forum (NQF) – The National Quality Forum was created to develop and implement a national strategy for healthcare quality measurement and reporting.

Numerator – The number of patients who actually received the prescribed treatment indicated by a particular measure

Pay-for-Performance (P4P) – A strategy to pay providers for higher-quality care as measured by selected evidence-based standards and procedures.

AMA Physician Consortium on Performance Improvement (PCPI) – The American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® (Consortium) is committed to enhancing quality of care and patient safety by taking the lead in the development, testing, and maintenance of evidence-based clinical performance measures and measurement resources for physicians. The AAN worked with PCPI on the development of the stroke measures to ensure the accuracy.

Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) – Establishes a financial incentive for eligible professionals to participate in a voluntary reporting program. Information on the PQRI measures is available on the CMS website at www.cms.hhs.gov/pqri .

Value of Care – Preference-weighted assessment of specific quality and cost of care