

STAND FOR QUALITY

in Health Care

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for joining Stand for Quality. Included in this message you will find a progress update and next steps for supporting the recommendations in *Building a Foundation for High Quality, Affordable Health Care: Linking Performance Measurement to Health Reform*.

Congratulations – based on the widespread understanding and support for the role of measurement, quality improvement and engaging public-private partnerships – as of today nearly 130 organizations have stated their support for the recommendations included in Stand for Quality. As you will see from the attached roster, the supporters truly represent the broad range of stakeholders who are working together to move our health care system to be one that continuously fosters improvement at all levels. Supporters including patient and consumer groups, employers, representatives of physicians, nurses and other clinicians, health plans, hospitals and more.

Based on the current economic challenges and congressional focus on the stimulus, we have decided to publicly launch Stand for Quality in early March. This will ensure that the recommendations in the proposal receive the focus they deserve. Here is a detailed plan:

- Release Stand for Quality and the list of endorsing organizations the first week of March. Until that time, we ask you to refrain from either distributing the document to members of the press or to policy-makers. Obviously, the document is “in circulation,” but it is important that the official launch of the recommendations garner maximum impact. If you are contacted by a member of the press, we suggest the following response:
“We are working in coalition with a diverse range of organizations on a draft set of recommendations to support the role of measuring performance and improving health care and affordability as part of the larger health reform effort; but there will be no public comment until the recommendations are finalized and made public in early March.”
- Until Stand for Quality is launched this remains a “private” document. The final document may look somewhat different as we format it for readability.
- The attached list of signatory organizations – like the document itself – is being shared only with signatory organizations and reflects groups that have signed-on as of February 10th. We welcome additional organizations. We will periodically update the sign-on letter until the launch.
- We currently anticipate a public launch that will include a press event and formal delivery of the Stand for Quality materials the first week of March.
- We will be developing supplemental materials that we will share with supporting organizations as they are developed.

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- We will provide periodic updates to all signatory organizations and welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Thanks again for your support of Stand for Quality's recommendations for improving the quality and affordability of health care in America. Please don't hesitate to send any questions to info@standforquality.org.

Sincerely,

Stand for Quality Steering Committee:

Janet M. Corrigan, Ph.D., M.B.A., President and Chief Executive Officer, National Quality Forum

Karen Ignagni, M.B.A., President and Chief Executive Officer, America's Health Insurance Plans

Charles N. Kahn, III, M.P.H., President, Federation of American Hospitals

Peter V. Lee, J.D., Executive Director for National Health Policy, Pacific Business Group on Health

Mark B. McClellan, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform at the Brookings Institution and Leonard D. Schaeffer Chair in Health Policy Studies

Debra L. Ness, President, National Partnership for Women & Families

Nancy H. Nielsen, M.D., Ph.D., President, American Medical Association

William L. Roper, M.D., M.P.H., Dean, UNC School of Medicine, Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs and CEO, UNC Healthcare System (Chair, National Quality Forum)

John C. Rother, Executive Vice President, Policy and Strategy, AARP

Gerald M. Shea, Assistant to the President for Governmental Affairs, AFL-CIO

Linda J. Stierle, R.N., M.S.N., NEA-BC, Chief Executive Officer, American Nurses Association

John Tooker, M.D., M.B.A., F.A.C.P., Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, American College of Physicians

Richard J. Umbdenstock, FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer, American Hospital Association