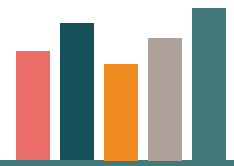


MEASUREMENT MINUTE

News from MN Community Measurement



COLLABORATE | EMPOWER | IMPROVE

December 2022

Letter from MNCM President and CEO Julie Sonier

As 2022 draws to a close, it is a good time to reflect on what we have accomplished during the year and what we hope to achieve in the new year.

This year has been a remarkably productive one for MN Community Measurement, with key accomplishments and milestones in several important areas of our work. Here are just a few examples:

We made substantial progress on the transition to MNCM's modernized data submission system known as PIPE. This is important because it reduces the burden on medical groups, enables more timely feedback, and enhances confidence in the comparability of measure results across organizations. About 28% of the clinical data collected directly from providers for measurement in the first quarter of 2022 was submitted via PIPE, and this number will be substantially higher for 2023.

With guidance from a subcommittee of MNCM's Measurement and Reporting Committee, we designed a new framework for reviewing and prioritizing quality measures, to ensure that what we measure continues to be relevant and important, and that health equity is an explicit consideration in making these decisions.

We convened a technical advisory group that helped us create a roadmap for future collection of data on social risk factors, designing a process aimed at 1) accommodating providers' use of multiple approaches and tools for collecting this information from patients; 2) avoiding additional burden for providers; and 3) being robust and adaptable as national approaches and standards evolve.

We sped up MNCM's cycle of public reporting in order to make meaningful information about health care quality available in as timely a way as possible and launched *new tools* to make the data more usable.

I am struck by two important things that all of these examples – and others too numerous to mention here – have in common: first, they all represent important steps in our journey to continually build on the foundational value that MNCM brings to our community; and second, none of them can be accomplished without the partnership and commitment of our stakeholders.

We have an equally ambitious agenda for 2023, which includes completing the transition to PIPE, implementing our new frameworks for measure review/prioritization and social risk factors data, and new projects that build on the core capabilities and mission of MNCM in exciting ways.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support, and best wishes for a happy, healthy and joyous holiday season!

Best,



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Measure Endorsement by National Quality Forum

Several MNCM stewarded measures were reviewed for maintenance endorsement by the National Quality Forum (NQF) during its most recent cycle of review. The Primary Care and Chronic Illness committee renewed the endorsement of the Optimal Diabetes Care measure. The Behavioral Health and Substance Use committee reviewed the suite of endorsed depression measures.

The Behavioral Health and Substance Use committee recommended re-endorsement of three of the five measures (depression remission at six months, depression remission at twelve months, and depression response at six months), and chose not to recommend re-endorsement of the remaining two. The measure for depression response at twelve months was not recommended for re-endorsement because committee members believed that it risks setting the bar too low in terms of expectations for depression care (despite evidence that there remains substantial room for improvement on this measure), and the measure for PHQ-9 utilization with patients who have been diagnosed with depression was not recommended for re-endorsement because committee members believed this measure is not supported with evidence linking the process to the outcome and is less valuable than the outcome measures.

The NQF Consensus Standards Approval Committee (CSAC) upheld the decisions of the two committees at their December meeting.

Health Care Quality Measures Update

The MNCM Board of Directors approved *MNCM's Slate of Measures for Public Reporting in 2023* based on recommendations provided by MNCM's Measurement and Reporting Committee (MARC). The Slate of Measures document includes information on type of measure, data collection method, measure endorsement status, and alignment with federal and state programs, including MDH's Statewide Quality Reporting and Measurement System (SQRMS). Separately, MDH published a *technical update for 2023 SQRMS reporting*.

New Benchmarking Tool Coming Soon for Medical Groups

MNCM is pleased to announce an updated version of its Medical Group Benchmarking Tool, which is provided as a benefit to medical groups that are Supporting Members of MNCM. The updated tool is available as part of a new Data Visualization Portal that provides a single location to access specific reports available to each MNCM Supporting Member.

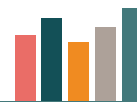
The medical group benchmarking tool provides easy access to comparisons of quality measures to peer organizations, as well as by insurance type and race/ethnicity. Data can be sorted and filtered by measure and by medical group/clinic site. Data in the tool will also be updated as the data used for specific measures becomes available throughout the year. This means reports will be updated multiple times each year, instead of annually.

MNCM anticipates launching this tool shortly after the new year. We will contact each Supporting Member this week to gather access information for those who need it at your organization.

MNCM will also host a webinar on January 11, to provide a walkthrough of this new tool and its features. All are welcome to attend.

Register for Webinar

The benchmarking tool is provided as a benefit of MNCM Membership. If you are interested in learning more about membership benefits or joining MNCM as a supporting member, please contact Joe Flannigan at flannigan@mncm.org, we invite you to learn more and join MNCM.



MNCM 2023 Annual Conference: Save the Date!

MNCM is pleased to announce that its next live and in-person conference will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. The event will take place at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West in Plymouth, MN. We're well underway with planning and hope we'll see you there!

Conference Sponsor

Bronze



Sign up to Sponsor or Exhibit Today

We are excited to invite your organization to sponsor or exhibit at this year's conference. Details on sponsorship packages available can be found on the [MNCM Website](#).

Each year, our Annual Conference draws more than 200 attendees. With your sponsorship and support, we can continue to increase the reach of this important event. CEOs, medical directors, clinicians, quality managers, community leaders, and so many more add value to this event.

Please [see the event prospectus](#) to learn more.

To secure your sponsorship, please [register as a sponsor online](#). If you have questions, please contact Joe Flannigan at 612-454-4829 or flannigan@mncm.org.

In Case You Missed It

Recent Reports Released by MNCM

Minnesota Health Care Disparities By Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Language and Country of Origin, Results for care delivered in 2021

Using one of the most comprehensive sources of data on health care disparities in the nation, MNCM's new report provides an update on health care disparities by race, ethnicity, language, and country of origin for Minnesota as a whole, with separate appendices detailing medical group-level results by race/ethnicity, language, and country of origin. The measures include care for chronic conditions like diabetes, heart disease, asthma, and depression, along with preventive care screenings for cancer and depression.

[View Report](#) | [View all past Reports](#)

Did you know?

MNCM keeps an archive of past events, including recordings, slides, and any handouts — on its website. Visit the [Past Events and Webinars](#) section of the MNCM website to view past sessions.

We Would Love to Hear Your Stories

As mentioned above, MNCM is proud to provide statewide measurement and reporting. The data provided are critical to many of our members, who use it in their everyday work. We are looking for comments or stories about how you use these data and how they benefit the work you do. If you would like to provide a comment or story, please feel free to contact Joe Flannigan at flannigan@mncm.org with your story. We may also use these examples and stories as ideas for future webinars and Annual Conference presentations, so we especially encourage you to share initiatives and successes that you think others would be interested in hearing about.

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Thank you to current Mission Supporters

Financial support is essential to sustain and grow our objective, unbiased work. Our Mission Supporters help assure our independent work continues.

For more information, or to join this program, please reach out to Joe Flannigan at flannigan@mncm.org.



Ways to Support MNCM

MNCM values engagement by its members, employers, and industry partners to support MNCM's mission. Below are several options to support MNCM and engage with us.

Supporting Membership (for Medical Groups and Advocacy Organizations)

Supporting membership is a great way to show your support and commitment to improving the quality and affordability of health care in our community through collaboration with other stakeholders. It also supports MNCM's efforts to make quality measurement easier so clinic staff can spend more time on improvement activities. Annual membership dues are designed to be affordable and for medical groups are based on the number of providers reported by the medical group through annual registration for data submission.

[View details about supporting membership](#)

Mission Supporter Program (for Industry Partners)

MNCM recently announced a new Mission Supporter Program for companies that support MNCM's mission and want to demonstrate support and commitment to improving health care quality, equity, and affordability in our community. This program is designed for those who are not directly involved with the services MNCM provides, but still support the efforts of our organization and those who will benefit from those efforts.

Supporters will have access to several benefits at two distinct levels. These benefits include recognition through our newsletter, on our website and on social media. Exclusive benefits are also offered to our gold level supporters. [View Mission Supporter Program Details](#).

For more information, or to join this program, please reach out to Joe Flannigan at flannigan@mncm.org.

