

May 23, 2011

Elizabeth McGlynn, PhD, MPP
George Isham, MD, MS
Measure Applications Partnership,
National Quality Forum
601 13th Street NW, Suite 500 North
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Beth and George,

Thank you both for facilitating a productive discussion during the first in-person Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) Coordinating Committee meeting on May 3-4. On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) I look forward to working with you both, the members of the MAP, and the National Quality Forum (NQF) staff in furthering our collective efforts to improve patient care across the United States. In that spirit I want to share the attached document, submitted earlier to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), regarding opportunities to better align quality measurement activities for physicians and other clinicians across federal programs. The recommendations included in this document reflect input from the AMA and multiple medical specialty societies.

According to Task 15.2a of the MAP's 'Schedule of Deliverables,' we are to provide input to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) by October 1, 2011 on a coordination strategy for clinician performance measurement across public programs. I hope the attached document will be of utility to the MAP as we develop our workproduct. The ability of HHS to align incentive programs (e.g., EHR Meaningful Use Incentive Program, Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), e-Prescribing), will require both short and long term efforts to harmonize provisions and requirements across and within programs and reduce participation burden on practitioners.

As always, on behalf of the AMA I welcome the opportunity to further discuss these issues further as the need arises. Jennifer Shevchek, Assistant Director, Federal Affairs is our staff liaison, and is reachable at 202-789-4688 or jennifer.shevchek@ama-assn.org.

Sincerely,



Carl A. Sirio, MD

ATTACHMENT

CC: MAP Coordinating Committee members
Janet Corrigan, PhD
Tom Valuck, MD JD
Nalini Pande, JD