Activities of the Dental Quality Alliance

Dr. Ronald Hunt
Midwestern University-Arizona
June 28, 2013
Topics

Genesis of the DQA

Outcomes of the past three years

Current Activities
What is Quality?
Why should we measure it?

Measure healthcare quality

Improve healthcare quality
Measurement of Quality in Oral Healthcare Delivery

Dentistry lags behind medicine, pharmacy, other health professions

Increasing impetus from CMS, commercial payers, and the public
2008 • DQA Proposed by CMS

2009 • Formation of Steering Committee

2010 • 1st DQA Meeting
Mission

...to advance the field of performance measurement to improve oral health, patient care, and safety through a consensus building process.
Aspirations

Become the primary source for advancement of performance measurement in Dentistry.

Become the “go to” body for the expertise in and testing of dental quality measures.
Structure

Member organizations
Organization representatives
Chair and Chair-elect officers
Executive Committee
Advisory Committees
Ad hoc Workgroups
Housed at the ADA
Process

- Two DQA meetings per year
- Exec Committee, 2x/yr. Periodic calls
- E&C Committee, monthly calls
- R&D Committee, biweekly calls
- Leadership Group, weekly calls
- Ad hoc committees, calls as needed
Funding

Member organization dues
Member support of rep travel
Employer’s support of rep time
In-kind support from ADA
Grants and contracts
Corporate support
Members

- Providers
- Specialties
- Educators
- Federal Agencies
- Payers
- Public
Accomplishments

- Measure Development
- Collaboration
- Education
Measure Development: Pediatric Oral Health Measures

- Environmental Scan
- Starter Set of Concepts
- Fully Specified Starter Set of Measures
- Exploring Pediatric e-Measures

http://www.ada.org/7503.aspx
Evidence-based clinical recommendations for the use of pit-and-fissure sealants
A report of the American Dental Association Council on Scientific Affairs

Performance measures are drawn from evidence

Outcome Measure: % of higher-risk children receiving sealants who are without caries

Process Measure: % of higher risk children receiving sealants
# Pediatric Starter Set: Clinical Measure Concepts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utilization of services</td>
<td>Received at least one service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usual source of services</td>
<td>Same source for 2 consecutive years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care continuity</td>
<td>Oral evaluation in 2 consecutive years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral evaluation</td>
<td>Oral evaluation within reporting year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>Topical fluoride applications or sealants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>At least one fluoride application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>Sealant, first permanent molar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>Sealant, second permanent molar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment</td>
<td>Treatment service within reporting year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Pediatric Starter Set: Cost Measure Concepts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Per enrollee/user cost of clinical services</strong></th>
<th><strong>Total amount paid on direct provision of care per enrolled child within reporting year</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage of child healthcare expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>Percentage of child health expenditures expended on dental/oral health care for the reporting year</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This measure has not yet been validated due to challenges in determining total healthcare costs in the denominator, but the measure is still under consideration.
Testing of Pediatric Starter Set

Feasibility
Reliability
Validity

Institute for Child Health Policy
University of Florida

ADA Foundation Grant
Florida & Texas Medicaid data
DentaQuest commercial data
When the measure testing results are accepted and approved by the DQA as expected in July 2013, the Pediatric Starter Set of nine clinical measures and one cost measure will be the first-ever, fully tested and validated, oral healthcare measures to be available for the dental profession’s use.
Additional Steps for Pediatric Starter Set

Endorsement
Implementation
Outcome assessment
Education
Research & Development Committee Ad hoc Workgroups

EHR Workgroup
- RFP to pilot-test e-Measures
- Care continuity, sealants

Pediatric Measures Workgroup
- New measure concepts
- Research agenda

Adult Measures Workgroup
- New measure concepts
- Research agenda
Pediatric Measure
Concepts under Discussion

ER visits
Care coordination
Treatment under general anesthesia
Treatment under conscious sedation
Permanent molar extraction
Sealed tooth retreatment with restoration, endodontics, or extraction
Adult Measure
Concepts under Discussion

ER visits
Adult caries
Care coordination
Provider availability
Chronic periodontitis
Nursing home population
Collaboration

- Federal Agencies (CMS, HRSA)
- Office of the National Coordinator Health Information Technology (ONC)
- National Quality Forum (NQF)
Education and Communication Committee Activities

2013 DQA Conference: Improving Dental Quality through Measurement

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
United Concordia Dental
Education

Dental Quality Alliance

The Dental Quality Alliance (DQA) was established in 2008 by the American Dental Association to develop performance measures for oral health care. The DQA is an organization of major stakeholders in oral health care delivery that will use a collaborative approach to develop oral health care measures.

- Mission
- Objectives
- Background on the Development of the Dental Quality Alliance
- Work of the Dental Quality Alliance: What?
- Dental Quality Alliance Organizational Structure
- Current Member Organizations

Mission

The mission of the Dental Quality Alliance is to advance performance measurement as a means to improve oral health, patient care and safety through a consensus-building process.

Objectives

1. To identify and develop evidence-based oral health care performance measures and measurement resources.
2. To advance the effectiveness and scientific basis of clinical performance measurement and improvement.
3. To foster and support professional accountability, transparency, and value in oral health care through the development, implementation and evaluation of performance measurement.

http://www.ada.org/5105.aspx
Education and Communication Committee Activities

Quality Measurement in Dentistry: A Guidebook

Five online brief tutorials
The Dental Quality Alliance is emerging as the dental profession’s leader in quality and performance measurement to improve dental healthcare delivery and oral health.

Without the support, expertise, and collaboration of its member organizations, their representatives, and the representatives’ employers, the DQA’s continuing excellent and leading work would not be possible.