

Quality Measures

Quality measures should be:

- Something that improves health for your patients
- Easy to quantify and easy to measure
- Something that you have the ability to impact
- Tied to standards (such as insurance company, government, local, or organization measures) when possible

Possible Health Equity/Social Determinants of Health Quality Measures

- Number of Social Determinants of Health incorporated in screening
- Percentage of patients screened for Social Determinants of Health
- Number of patients referred for services to address Social Determinants of Health
- Percentage of patients in identified Hot Spots
- Percent of patients with documented Z-code
- Number of community/governmental partners to address Health Equity needs
- Number of insurance company partners working to address Health Equity needs of patients
- Patient survey of how their Social Determinants of Health needs are being addressed
- Identified quality measure for a condition, which is then compared to outcomes for different groups to evaluate and address inequity

Interventions

Good interventions will:

- Use the entire team effectively - Not just more work for the physician and other clinical staff
- Often engage patients in improving their health
- Generally involve incremental change - Make small changes, then make more changes later if the initial changes work well
- Only change one or two processes at a time
- Include educating staff on the disease or treatment being addressed

Possible Health Equity/Social Determinants of Health Interventions

- Educate staff about the importance of Health Equity and how addressing Social Determinants of Health can improve Health Equity
- Work with policy makers in government, non-governmental organization(s), or payer(s) to address a particular Social Determinant of Health (the measure would need to evaluate changes in patient health outcomes)
- Inform patients about measures your practice is taking to address Health Equity and how they are able to engage resources to address barriers they face
- Implement Social Determinants of Health screening
- Apply hot spotting to your practice community
- Implement Group based risk assessment
- Implement Z-Coding
- Form partnership with community or governmental organization to impact Health Equity
- Partner with insurance company to address Health Equity
- Select a condition, learn about how inequities have caused worse patient outcomes for individuals with the disease, then find interventions to address these factors for patients in your practice
- Develop and distribute a Health Equity Plan for your practice that includes at least identified health equity gaps, goals, interventions, responsible staff members, and community/government partners and their resources