

AAOS GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON SERVICE ON WORK GROUPS DEVELOPING QUALITY MEASURES (QMs)

The AAOS Board of Directors has adopted this Guidance Document on Service of Work Groups Developing Performance Measures to advise clinicians of their eligibility to serve on PM Work Groups and the process to be used in making this determination.

AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program Background

1. Each Fellow or Member applying to participate or participating in a QM Work Group has the obligation to disclose all potentially relevant financial or nonfinancial conflicts of interests through the AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program. Individuals who are not members of the AAOS applying to participate or participating in a QM Work Group are also required to participate in the AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program.
2. AAOS policy requires detailed financial information for each conflict noted by an applicant or member of a QM Work Group. This detailed information is not available to the public, is accessible to a limited number of AAOS staff and will be used solely for purposes of resolution of conflict of interest issues.

Disclosures Made by Applicants to serve on PM Work Groups

1. AAOS staff review the AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program, as well as data available via CMS OpenPayments. If a possible relevant financial or nonfinancial conflict of interest is deemed to exist, AAOS staff will contact the applicant for additional information, which may include specific details and clarification as to the relevancy to the QM topic.
2. If a relevant financial or nonfinancial conflict exists, the applicant is able to divest the conflict.
3. An applicant denied participation in a QM Work Group due to perceived relevant financial or nonfinancial conflict may appeal the decision. The QM Oversight Chair and the QM Work Group Chair shall discuss the situation with the Chair of the Committee on EBQV and the Chair of the CORQ. If they cannot or elect not to make a determination, the matter will be referred to the Committee on Ethics and Outside Interests, via the Director of Governance. The Committee on Ethics and Outside Interests' decision regarding whether a relevant financial or nonfinancial conflict of interest exists and whether an individual is eligible to serve or remain a member of the QM Work Group shall be considered final.

QM Work Group Member Eligibility

1. QM Work Group members must not have any relevant financial conflicts of interest related to their respective QM for one year prior to development, during development, and for one-year post-approval of the QM by the AAOS Board of Directors.
2. Financial conflicts of interest will be deemed significant, and preclude participation on the CPG work group, if relevant financial conflicts exceed \$1,000 cumulatively.
3. PM Work Group members will be asked to verbally disclose any new financial or nonfinancial conflicts of interest at the introductory meeting and at subsequent meetings. AAOS staff will generate a general disclosure report that will be disseminated at the meetings and in the published QM.

The AAOS disclosure and conflict of interest processes have been developed with the goal of transparent and appropriate decision-making. This Guidance Document may be modified as other AAOS policies and procedures are developed.

Adopted: September 2014
Revised: May 2015
Updated: October 2017
Revised: April 2019

ATTESTATION

Attestation Statement for Potential Performance Measure (PM) Work Group Members with No Relevant Conflicts

If you wish to be considered as a candidate to serve on a Work Group that develops AAOS Performance Measures, please know that you will be required to disclose potential conflicts of interest at the same level as the AAOS Board of Directors prior to beginning work on any PMs. This disclosure is more detailed than regular member disclosure and includes specific financial details.

By signing this affidavit, I am stating that I have no relevant conflicts concerning the subject matter of the PM titled:

I attest that I will not enter into relationships that might create a conflict of interest situation (i.e. becoming a consultant to an orthopaedic or medical company, etc.) both during the time the PMs are being developed and for one year after the AAOS Board of Directors approval of the PMs.

Please Print:

Member Name _____

Member Signature _____

Date _____

