



American Society of
Health-System Pharmacists
7272 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
(301) 657-3000
Fax: (301) 664-8877
www.ashp.org

February 10, 2009

The National Quality Forum
601 Thirteenth Street, NW
Suite 500 North
Washington, DC 20005

Re: NQF Member Vote on *Measurement Framework: Evaluating Efficiency Across Patient-Focused Episodes of Care*

The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), a member of the Health Professionals Council, is pleased to vote on the proposed Measurement Framework for Evaluating Efficiency Across Patient-Focused Episodes of Care. In addition to our vote submitted via the NQF Member Portal, we offer the following comments.

ASHP commends NQF for developing a framework for evaluating efficiency in health care. The framework is well-written, complete, and accurate. We vote to approve the document as drafted.

Pharmacists will play a critical role in the episode of care framework, including sharing responsibility for patient care, coordinating care during transitions, offering medication and lifestyle counseling for prevention of chronic disease, and providing medication therapy management (MTM). The Society believes the framework will result in new payment approaches that reward efficient care, rather than existing models that favor compensation based on volume of care provided. ASHP policy supports [compensation](#) for efficient processes of care, including [medication reconciliation](#) as a component of MTM. The Society also supports the framework's equitable approach of rewarding all healthcare professionals that deliver care.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the framework. If you have questions concerning the Society's vote, please contact me at (301) 664-8815 or at mandrawis@ashp.org.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Andrawis', written in a cursive style.

Mary Andrawis, Pharm.D., M.P.H.
Medication-Use Quality Improvement Associate

TOGETHER WE MAKE A GREAT TEAM