Implementation of the ACS Quality Improvement Framework in Cancer Programs

Eileen Reilly, MSW
Manager, Quality Improvement, Cancer Programs

I have nothing to Disclose

ACS AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

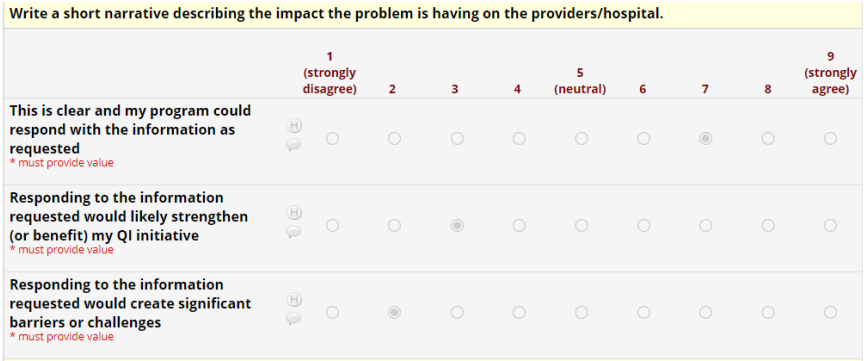
Current State of QI in Cancer Programs' Standards

CoC	NAPBC	NAPRC
1 QI Project required using recognized performance improvement methodology	2 QI Studies required; one of which can be participation in specialty-specific QI database	No dedicated QI project required
Implemented in 2020; Aligned with MBSAQIP QI initiative standard	Revised standard will align with CoC requirements (implementation in 2024)	Each year, program must do a compliance audit for 13 standards and implement action plans

© American College of Surgeons 2022– Content cannot be reproduced or repurposed without written permission of the American College of Surgeons.

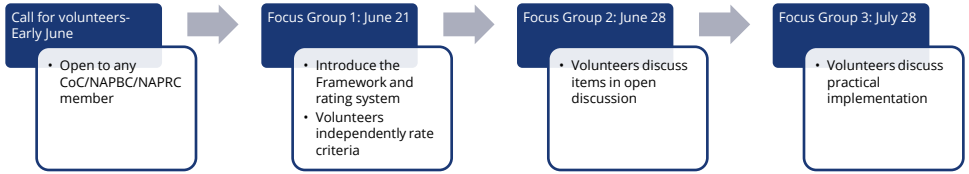
QI Framework Focus Group

- Focus groups to review the Framework
  - Varying degrees of familiarity with QI
  - Varying positions (quality coordination, Physician quality lead, oncology navigator, etc)
- Volunteers responded to three questions using a 1-9 scale
  - Clarity
  - Adding strength
  - Presenting significant barriers or challenges



Write a short narrative describing the impact the problem is having on the providers/hospital.

	1 (strongly disagree)	2	3	4	5 (neutral)	6	7	8	9 (strongly agree)
This is clear and my program could respond with the information as requested * must provide value	○	○	○	○	○	○	◉	○	○
Responding to the information requested would likely strengthen (or benefit) my QI initiative * must provide value	○	○	◉	○	○	○	○	○	○
Responding to the information requested would create significant barriers or challenges * must provide value	○	◉	○	○	○	○	○	○	○



© American College of Surgeons 2022– Content cannot be reproduced or repurposed without written permission of the American College of Surgeons.

ACS AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

30 day follow up

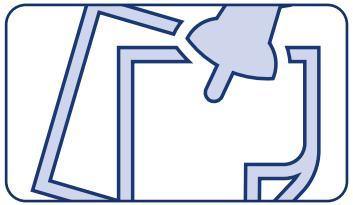
Implementation challenges

© American College of Surgeons 2022– Content cannot be reproduced or repurposed without written permission of the American College of Surgeons.

Results

Generally:

- Positive feedback to the Framework and standardizing QI processes
- Volunteers liked having a structured template, criteria to guide projects



Considerations:

- Areas of criteria that may be overlapping
- Including an “NA” or “unable to assess” option
- Different program types (some settings have fewer resources or dedicated QI staff)

Questions that remain:

- What education and training is needed for staff and leadership?
- What information is needed at the organizational level?
- How can Cancer programs leverage existing infrastructure to strengthen QI projects?

© American College of Surgeons 2022– Content cannot be reproduced or repurposed without written permission of the American College of Surgeons.

Next Steps

Reach out if you…

1) want to use the framework or any of the tools
2) provide feedback so we can continue to build tools and the framework
3) need help defining a QI project – we're working with accredited programs now to set up a successful projects for 2023.
4) if you have an example project you think is a great case study that we can share with others
5) want to be notified as new tools are available

© American College of Surgeons 2022– Content cannot be reproduced or repurposed without written permission of the American College of Surgeons.

Questions?

ereilly@facs.org or

Acsframework@facs.org

ACS AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS