



PQA Receives AARP Grant for NQF Measure Incubator

The Pharmacy Quality Alliance is pleased to announce that it has received a \$200,000 award through an AARP Measure Innovation Grant. In partnership with OptumLabs™ and the National Quality Forum (NQF) Measure Incubator™, AARP will sponsor the development and testing a novel PQA quality measure concept, *"Hospital Admission or Emergency Department (ED) Visits for Bleeding Events Associated with Anticoagulant Medications"*.

PQA, collaborating with researchers at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, an experienced OptumLabs partner, will leverage the OptumLabs Data Warehouse, consisting of de-identified healthcare claims and clinical information on over 150 million Americans, to characterize the patient population based on anticoagulant use; and to test and validate the association between anticoagulants and the risk of bleeding events resulting in hospitalizations or ED visits.

The current healthcare quality measurement landscape is limited with respect to anticoagulants and associated adverse bleeding events. The development and implementation of an anticoagulant quality measure that focuses on bleeding events and associated hospitalizations or ED visits is impactful to the overall healthcare system.

This project will begin in the second quarter of 2017. The final measure specifications and risk adjustment model will be completed by the end of the fourth quarter of 2017.