## Palliative Care Dashboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Endorsed By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Process - Pain and Symptom Management</strong>&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of symptom management assessment scale</td>
<td>Percent of cancer patients with advanced stage disease whose symptoms were assessed at each care episode using a standardized symptom assessment tool</td>
<td>Ideal benchmark: 100%</td>
<td></td>
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| Symptom management: pain | Percent of patients with a cancer related outpatient visit who have been screened for the presence or absence, and intensity of pain using a numeric pain score | Ideal benchmark: 100%  
Best observed: 79%<sup>2</sup> | |
| Symptom management: depression | Percent of cancer patients who are diagnosed with depression who have a documented plan for depression | Ideal benchmark: 100%  
Best observed: 69%<sup>3</sup> | |
| Symptom management: fatigue | Percent of patients undergoing chemotherapy, who were assessed for the presence or absence of fatigue during a cancer related outpatient visit | Ideal benchmark: 100%  
Best observed: 25%<sup>4</sup> | |
| **Process – Access to Palliative Care** | | | |
| Access to palliative care | Percent of patients with advanced cancer who received a palliative care consult before death | Ideal benchmark: 100%  
Best observed: 45%<sup>5</sup> | |
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<td><strong>Process – Appropriate Utilization</strong></td>
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<td>New chemotherapy at end-of-life</td>
<td>Percent of patients who died from cancer that started new chemotherapy regimen in the last 30 days of life</td>
<td>Best observed: &lt;2%&lt;sup&gt;8&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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| Chemotherapy utilization at end-of-life              | Percent of patients who died from cancer that received chemotherapy in the last 14 days of life | National average: 6%<sup>15</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup> percentile: 4%<sup>16</sup>  
50<sup>th</sup> percentile: 5.9%<sup>17</sup>  
90<sup>th</sup> percentile: 7%<sup>18</sup> | NQF #0210<sup>19</sup>, ASCO<sup>20</sup> |
| Hospitalizations at end-of-life                     | Percent of patients who died from cancer with one or more hospitalizations in the last 30 days of life | Best observed: <4%<sup>7</sup>               | NQF #0212<sup>8</sup> |
| ED utilization at end-of-life                       | Percent of patients who died from cancer with one or more ED visits in last 30 days of life | Estimated typical performance: 8-10%<sup>9</sup>  
Best observed: 2%<sup>10</sup> | NQF #0211<sup>11</sup> |
| ICU utilization at end-of-life                      | Percent of patients who died from cancer admitted to ICU in last 30 days of life | Estimated typical performance: 8 to 12%<sup>12</sup>  
Best observed: <4%<sup>13</sup> | NQF #0213<sup>14</sup> |
| Acute care utilization at end-of-life               | Percent of patients who died from cancer within an acute care setting       | Best observed: <17%<sup>21</sup> | NQF #0214<sup>22</sup> |
| Hospice utilization                                 | Percent of patients who died from cancer who were not admitted to hospice    | Estimated typical performance: 65 to 85%<sup>23</sup>  
Best observed: <55%<sup>24</sup> | NQF #0215<sup>25</sup> |
| Hospice referral timeliness                         | Percent of patients who died from cancer, were admitted to hospice, and spent less than 3 days there | Estimated typical performance: 27-35%<sup>26</sup>  
Best observed: 8%<sup>27</sup> | NQF #0216<sup>28</sup> |
| Hospice median length of stay                       | Median length of stay for patients who were admitted to hospice             | National median length of stay: 19.7 days<sup>29</sup> | NHPCO<sup>30</sup> |
Palliative Care Dashboard Sources

1. Where benchmarks exist, we have included the relevant measures and endorsing bodies. For all other symptom management measures we refer providers to ensure consistent use of a standardized symptom assessment tool at each care episode for all cancer patients with advanced stage disease.

**Symptom Management Assessment Tools**
- Memorial Symptom Assessment Scale
- Edmonton Symptom Assessment System
- Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy (FACT)


