



# The National Quality Forum

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## Evaluating Efficiency across Episodes of Care

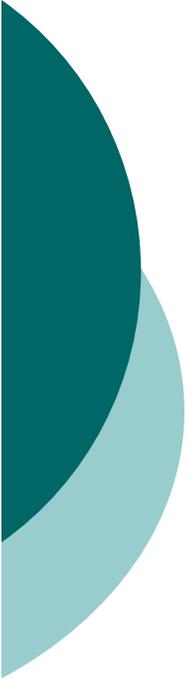
NCVHS Testimony  
August 2, 2007  
Karen Adams, PhD



# NQF Priority Setting Pilot Project

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- Develop a comprehensive measurement framework to assess efficiency—quality and costs—across extended health care episodes including:
  - Clear definitions
  - A discrete set of domains
  - Guiding principles for implementation



# NQF Priority Setting Pilot Project

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- Identify a subset of priority conditions intended to serve as a starting point for a national effort to measure, report and improve efficiency across episodes of care
- Establish national performance improvement goals—measurable targets for two priority conditions—over the next three to five years
- Lay out a future vision & research agenda for the evolution of a measurement and monitoring system focused on episode efficiency

# Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee

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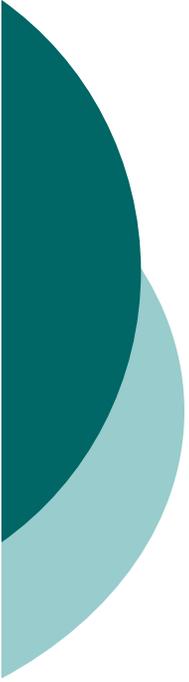


Kevin Weiss, MD Co-chair



Elliott Fisher, MD Co-chair

Committee Roster Attached



# Committee Progress to Date

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- Drafting a measurement framework for “episode efficiency” that includes definitions, domains & guiding principles
- Conducting a workshop on August 29 to further flesh out framework with a diverse group of content experts
- Selected two priority conditions to serve as operational examples:
  - AMI
  - Low Back Pain



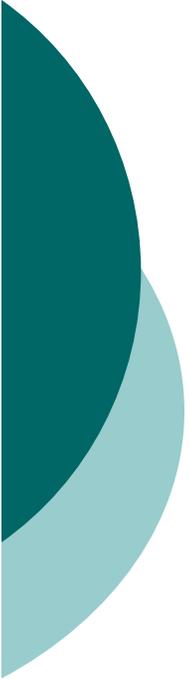
# Common Language: Terminology\*

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- “Quality of care”
  - IOM – safe, timely, effective, equitable, patient-centered
- “Cost of care”
  - Resource use: price + volume
- “Efficiency of care”
  - Quality + costs
- “Value of care”
  - Quality + costs + preferences

\*Adopted from the AQA

<http://www.aqaalliance.org/files/PrinciplesofEfficiencyMeasurementApril2006.doc>



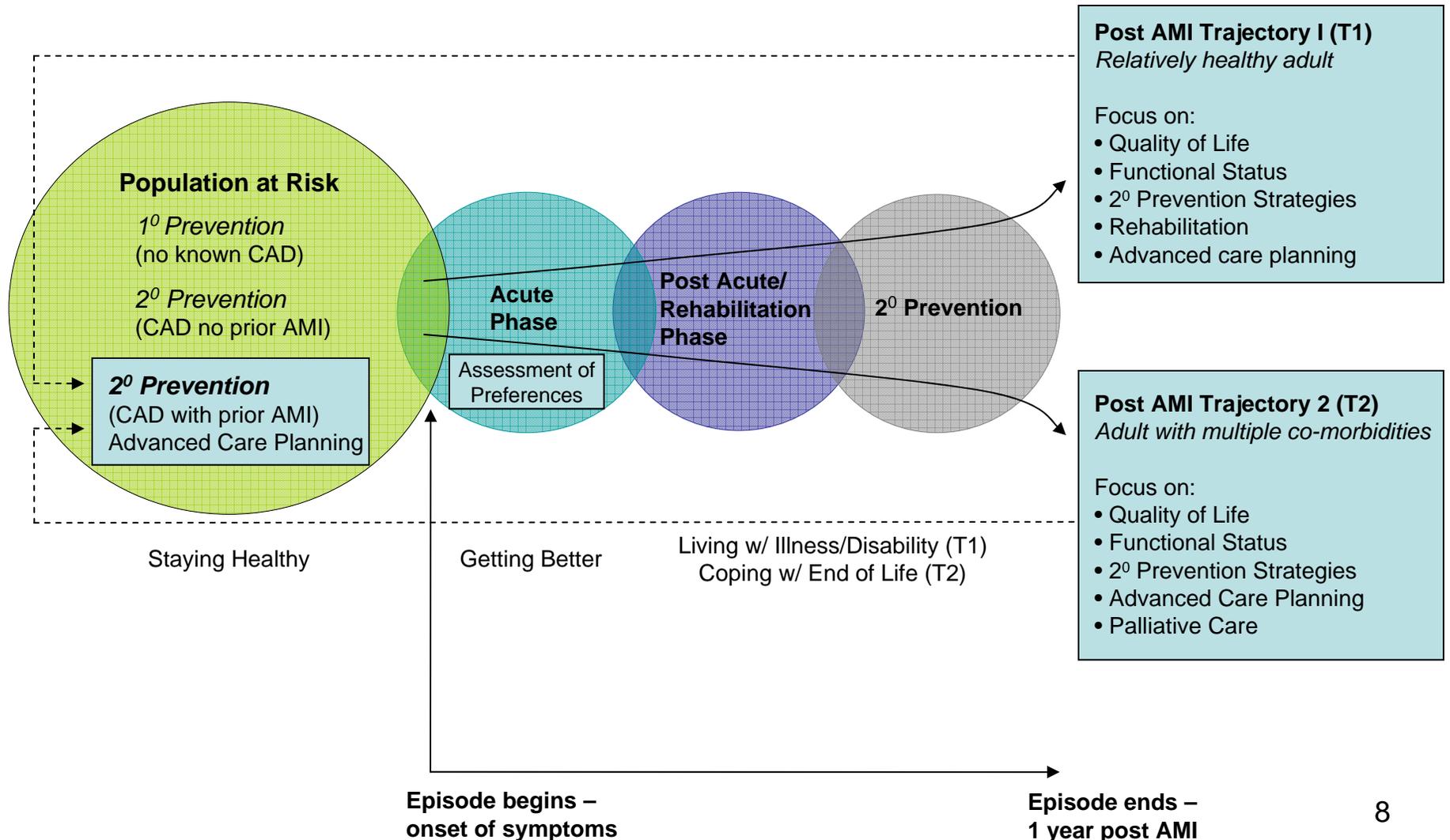
## Rationale: Extended Episodes of Care

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- Patient-focused way of thinking
  - Follows the natural trajectory of care
- Directed at value
  - Quality, costs & patient preferences
- Addresses care coordination
  - Care transitions & hand-offs
- Antidote to current encounter-driven finance system

# Draft

## Context for Considering an AMI Episode





# Methodological Issues for NCVHS Consideration

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## ○ Data

- Data integrity –quality of the data elements needed for “efficiency” measurement
- Data collection & aggregation across extended episodes
- Data standards needed to codify for EHRs



## Methodological Issues cont.

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- Accountability
  - Attributing care across multiple providers
- Privacy
  - Obtaining consent across multiple care settings



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