Anesthesia Quality Institute

# NACOR QUALITY REPORTING – ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Anesthesia Quality Institute's (AQI) National Anesthesia Clinical Outcomes Registry (NACOR) is an approved Qualified Registry (QR) and Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR) for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 2017 Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) Quality Payment Program.  Regardless of the reporting option you choose, participating in MIPS requires coordination and input from multiple parties.

The following roles and responsibilities lay the foundation for successful quality reporting.

## NACOR ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Offer four options for MIPS reporting:  QR Individual Reporting; QR Group Practice Reporting; QCDR Individual Reporting; and QCDR Group Practice Reporting
- Support the clinical improvement activity attestation process
- Support a wide range of anesthesia measures for each reporting option
- Provide resources to help practices navigate complex MIPS reporting:
  o Website resources
  o Monthly webinars followed by Q & A
  o Answer measures-related questions via e-mail: qra@asahq.org
  o Sample quality capture forms
  o A list of vendors who have reported their ability to meet AQI NACOR's file formatting and content requirements. Because each practice is unique, practices are responsible for verifying a vendor's ability to successfully submit data on their behalf.  NACOR in no way endorses, certifies, guarantees or warrants the services of any listed vendor.
  o Dashboard reports to help practices monitor QCDR and QR measure compliance
  o Submission of QCDR and QR files to CMS in accordance with regulatory requirements
  o NACOR report interpretation available upon request

## PRACTICE ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Understand MIPS reporting and performance requirements
- Ensure the accuracy and quality of data submitted to NACOR
- Monitor MIPS reporting compliance via NACOR dashboard reports
- Meet NACOR deadlines
- Choose a physician anesthesiologist or other quality champion to manage and oversee the practice quality reporting activities. These activities typically include:
  o Reading the 2017 NACOR User Guide for Quality Reporting
    ▪ Select a reporting option - QR Individual Reporting; QR Group Practice Reporting; QCDR Individual Reporting or QCDR Group Practice Reporting
  o Completing the contracting process and NACOR Quality Reporting Order Form
    ▪ NACOR Participation Agreement and the ASA Quality Reporting Agreement are required.

## PRACTICE ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES (CONT'D):

- Identify measures that may be reported for all eligible clinicians (ECs) in the practice
- Operationalize the data collection, data formatting, and data submission processes:
  - o Determine whether the practice will utilize the service(s) of a vendor(s) or in-house IT staff. When making this decision, consider the type of IT support available within the practice, the IT systems the practice already has in place and the amount of time the quality champion can dedicate to the project. Practices struggling with pulling data from their systems for submission to NACOR may consider using the Quality Concierge™ solution. For more information, email qcdr@asahq.org.
- Check TIN and NPI numbers for completeness and accuracy
- Take advantage of the resources AQI provides:
  - o Utilize the training materials under Resources in the NACOR application to learn the administrative and reporting features in NACOR
  - o Review online QR and QCDR reports monthly to identify potential gaps. Follow up with your ECs, in-house IT staff or vendor(s) and take the necessary corrective action. Reports include group performance metrics, individual performance metrics and quality measure compliance reports with drilldown capabilities for more granular data.
  - o Participate in NACOR Quality Reporting Virtual Office Hours
  - o Read AQI NACOR News and other listserv communications and follow recommended actions
- Because billing data for all anesthesia clinicians is submitted to NACOR, the practice is responsible to "Opt Out" for any clinician they do not wish to report data to CMS.  AQI NACOR defaults all clinicians to "YES to CMS Reporting" to achieve maximum reporting for the practice. The deadline for opting out a clinician(s) is February 15, 2018.  Instructions are provided here.

## RESPONSIBILITIES INVOLVING COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE PRACTICE AND IT STAFF OR VENDOR(S):

- Establish a quality control process with the practice's vendor(s) or in-house IT staff.
- Merge data from multiple sources into one file prior to submission to AQI NACOR.  Additional fee-based services for merging multiple files are available by contacting askaqi@asahq.org.
- Verify the accuracy of the file format and content before submitting files to AQI NACOR.