

## Membership benefits, levels, roles and responsibilities

Membership in the American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® (PCPI™) is open to any organization or individual committed to health care quality improvement and patient safety.

### Why Join the PCPI

The PCPI, through its collaborative composition and efforts, offers organizations and individuals the opportunity to help improve the quality and efficiency of health care delivery, and to shape the future of health care. The PCPI works collaboratively to support physicians and other health care professionals.

Benefits of PCPI membership include:

- News and updates on PCPI performance measurement work and quality improvement efforts
- Information about and requests to comment and vote on performance measures and guidance documents
- Opportunities to submit nominations for and participate on work groups or committees
- Access to a wealth of content and resources on the PCPI website ([physicianconsortium.org](http://physicianconsortium.org))
- Membership meetings and webinars for networking, education and updates on PCPI activities

### How to apply

If you or your organization would like to become a member of the PCPI, complete and return the appropriate [PCPI membership application](#). All applicants must meet the following requirements:

- List the PCPI primary, alternate and staff representatives from your organization (note: for an *individual* membership, this requirement does not apply)
- Complete the Profile and Material Interest Disclosure Statement for each representative
- Comply with the PCPI Conflict of Interest (COI) Policy

**Now more than 170 member organizations and individuals strong, the PCPI includes such diverse members as:**

- ▶ **National medical specialty societies**
- ▶ **American Board of Medical Specialties and member boards**
- ▶ **Council of Medical Specialty Societies**
- ▶ **State medical societies**
- ▶ **Health care professional organizations**
- ▶ **Federal agencies**
- ▶ **Individual members**
- ▶ **Other groups interested in improving the quality of health care**

Submit completed membership documents as PDF files by email to [consortium@ama-assn.org](mailto:consortium@ama-assn.org).

### Membership levels

The PCPI offers three levels of membership based upon your organization's purpose or your individual career focus.

- Full voting PCPI organization members
- Limited voting PCPI organization members
- Nonvoting PCPI organization or individual members

### Full voting organization members

Organizations eligible as full voting PCPI organization members include:

- American Medical Association
- All state and specialty medical societies represented in the AMA House of Delegates
- American Osteopathic Association
- Council of Medical Specialty Societies
- American Board of Medical Specialties
- American Board of Medical Specialties member boards

The *privileges* of full voting organization members include:

- Proposing topics for measure development
- Nominating participants for measurement development and maintenance work group(s)
- Reviewing and commenting on all measures during comment periods
- Voting on final draft measure(s) and guidance documents
- Submitting nominees for the PCPI Executive Committee
- Serving on the PCPI Executive Committee
- Voting on matters that come before the PCPI

Representatives of full voting member organizations have the responsibility to *vote* on:

- Work group recommendations for approval of final draft measure(s) and guidance documents
- Confirmation of the selection of the PCPI chair and vice chair
- Election of the PCPI Executive Committee
- Changes to the PCPI Bylaws
- Position statements developed by PCPI advisory committees and other committees
- Other matters as proposed by the PCPI Executive Committee

### Limited voting organization members

Health care professional organizations eligible as limited voting organization members of the PCPI have *limited* voting rights and specified privileges and must meet all three of the following criteria:

1. Represent health care professional organization members who are eligible to participate in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Physician Quality Reporting System
2. Serve a professional discipline that is not already represented by a current full voting member of the PCPI
3. Function as the principal membership organization of the relevant health care profession, or function as an umbrella organization representing, by agreement, multiple organizations serving the relevant health care profession

The *privileges* of limited voting organization members include:

- Proposing topics for measure development
- Nominating participants for measurement development and maintenance work group(s)
- Reviewing and commenting on all measures during comment periods
- Voting on final draft measures and guidance documents
- Submitting nominees for the PCPI Executive Committee

Representatives of health care professional organization members are limited to *voting* only on work group recommendations for approval of measure(s) that are relevant to the health care professional organization members' professional discipline, and were developed by a work group that included representation by the health care professional organization member.

### Nonvoting organization or individual members

Organizations and individuals eligible as nonvoting PCPI members include those committed to health care quality improvement and/or patient safety, and participants in the development, review, dissemination, or implementation of performance measures and measurement resources.

Eligible nonvoting organization members include but are not limited to:

- Organizations representing medical groups, consumers, purchasers and health plans
- Government agencies (such as the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and CMS)

Eligible nonvoting individual members include but are not limited to those with knowledge, expertise, and experience in the methodology of performance measurement or the science of quality improvement.

The *privileges* of nonvoting members include:

- Proposing topics for measure development
- Reviewing and commenting on all measures during comment periods

### Member organization representatives: Roles and responsibilities

All member *organizations* appoint an individual as a "Primary representative" and an individual as an "Alternate

representative" for a term of three years each and additional terms as determined by their organization. They also appoint a staff representative.

*Individuals* who are PCPI members cannot appoint alternate or staff representatives and can only represent themselves.

Primary and alternate representatives should possess knowledge, expertise or experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Clinical quality improvement
- Performance measurement
- Clinical guideline development
- The practice of medicine or the health care professional organization member's professional discipline
- Patient safety

### Primary representatives

The PCPI member organization gives its primary representative the role and authority to represent the member organization in PCPI matters.

Responsibilities of the primary representative include:

- Communicating the activities of the PCPI to their organization
- Reviewing and commenting on all measures and guidance documents during comment periods
- Promoting implementation of PCPI-developed measure(s) and guidance documents
- Participating in or identifying experts to participate in PCPI work groups
- Attending PCPI member meetings on a regular basis
- Performing PCPI-related activities as reasonably requested by the PCPI Executive Committee
- Acting as official representatives of the PCPI to outside organizations (when requested by the PCPI chair or staff)
- Serving on the PCPI Executive Committee if nominated and elected (*full voting member organizations only*)

- Voting on behalf of their organization on matters before the full voting membership (*full voting member organizations only*)
- Voting on behalf of their organization on specified final draft measures before the full voting membership that are relevant to the health care professional organization members' professional discipline, and were developed by a work group that included representation by the health care professional organization member (*limited voting health care professional organizations only*)

### Alternate representatives

Responsibilities of the alternate representatives include:

- Communicating the activities of the PCPI to their organization
- Reviewing and commenting on all performance measures and guidance documents during comment periods
- Promoting implementation of PCPI-developed measure(s) and guidance documents
- Participating in or identifying experts to participate in PCPI work groups
- Attending PCPI member meetings on a regular basis
- Voting, if eligible, on matters that are put forth before the voting membership, in the absence of the primary representative.

### Staff representatives

The Staff representative designated by the member organization is the liaison and contact for the organization for all PCPI activities and facilitates bidirectional communication between the member organization and the PCPI.

Responsibilities of the staff representatives include:

- Communicating the activities of the PCPI to their organization
- Promoting implementation of PCPI-developed measure(s) and guidance documents

## Contact the PCPI

For more information email [consortium@ama-assn.org](mailto:consortium@ama-assn.org) or call the PCPI at (800) 621-8335 for assistance. [PCPI applications](#) are also available online.