USCDI+ Quality Update

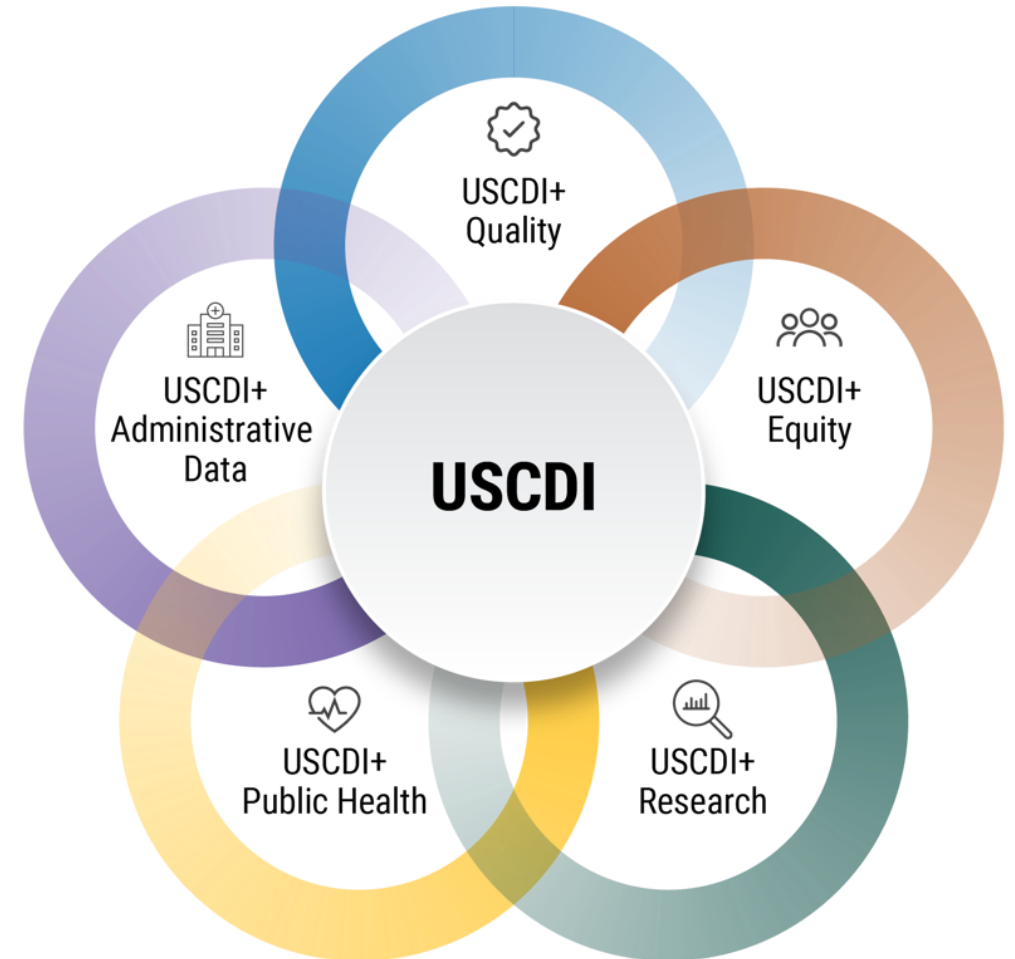**Lisa Wagner, Senior Advisor, Office of Policy, ONC**

Ashley Hain, Public Health Analyst, Office of Technology, ONC
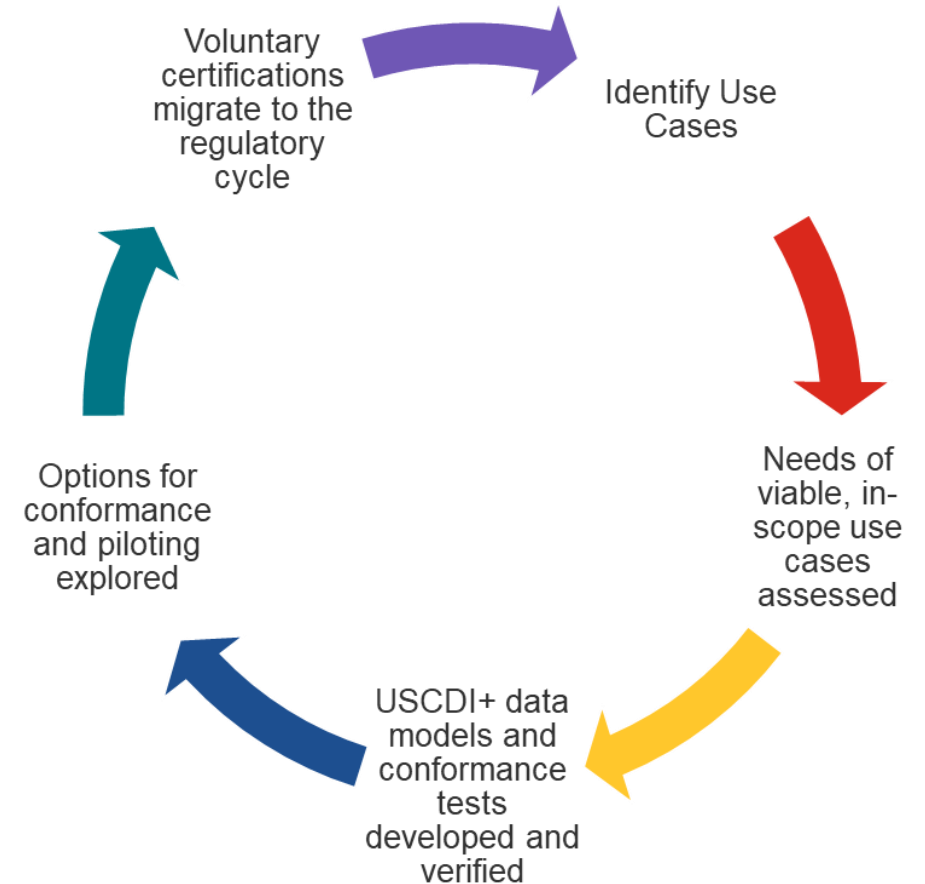
June 15, 2023

USCDI+: Extending Beyond the USCDI

- Unique program and use case-specific data needs are sometimes not fully met by USCDI.

- Helps government and industry partners build on USCDI to support specific program needs.

- Applies USCDI processes for submission and harmonization while focusing on programmatic priorities.

- Seeks to leverage programs and authorities across HHS to drive adoption.

- USCDI+ for Quality Measurement and Public Health kicked off with CDC, CMS & HRSA.
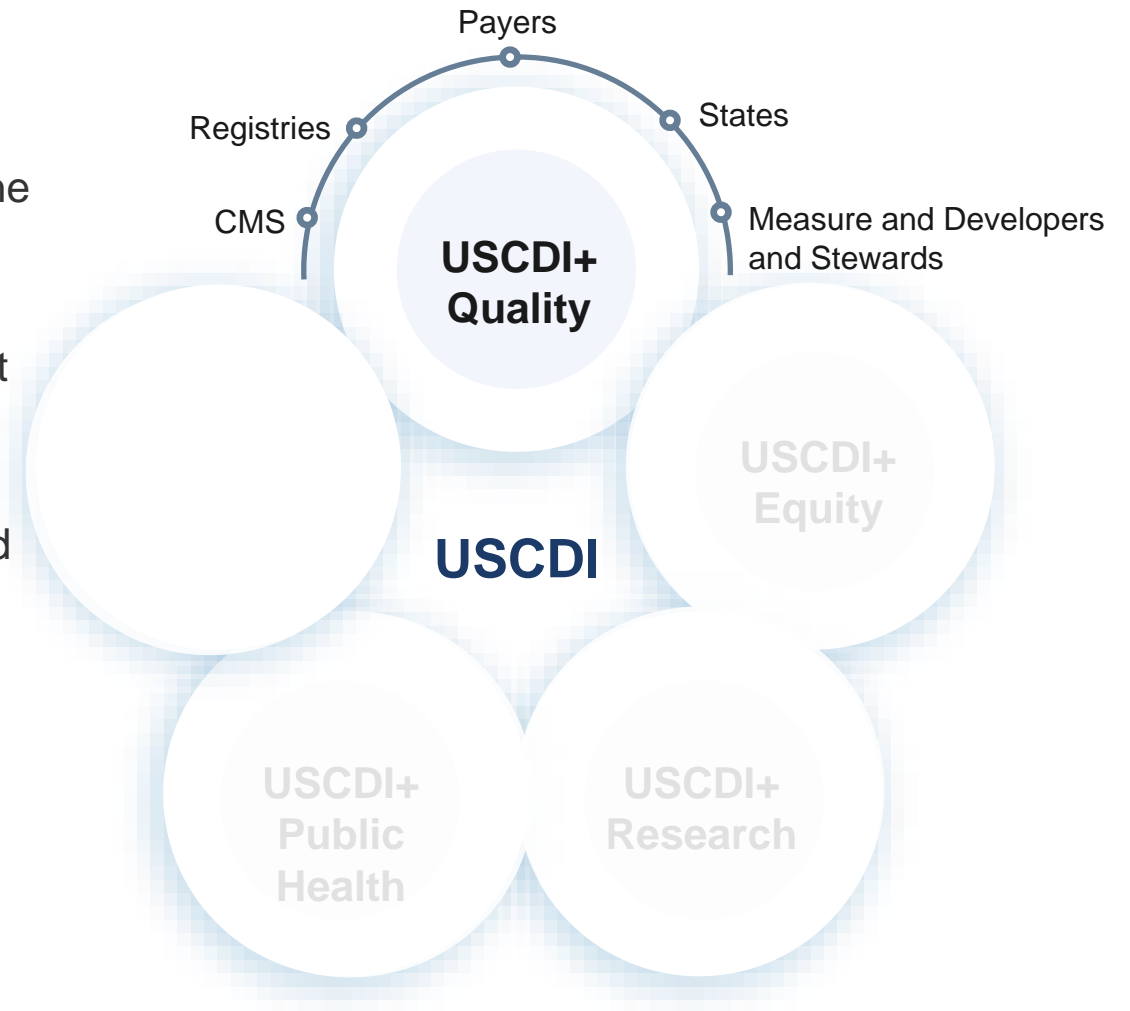
USCDI+: Iterative, Rolling Process

- New use cases build on existing work, but focuses on meeting a need in real-time; coordinated with ONC requirements

- At regular intervals:
  - USCDI+ can be updated with findings shared on public facing platform
  - Pilots help inform both bright spots and barriers to success
  - Data requirements are paired with test kits for conformance (tied to certification)

- Partners across the ecosystem adopt consistent models for data capture and exchange → ensures better treatment, prevention and research for all patients

Voluntary certifications migrate to the regulatory cycle

Identify Use Cases

Needs of viable, in-scope use cases assessed

USCDI+ data models and conformance tests developed and verified

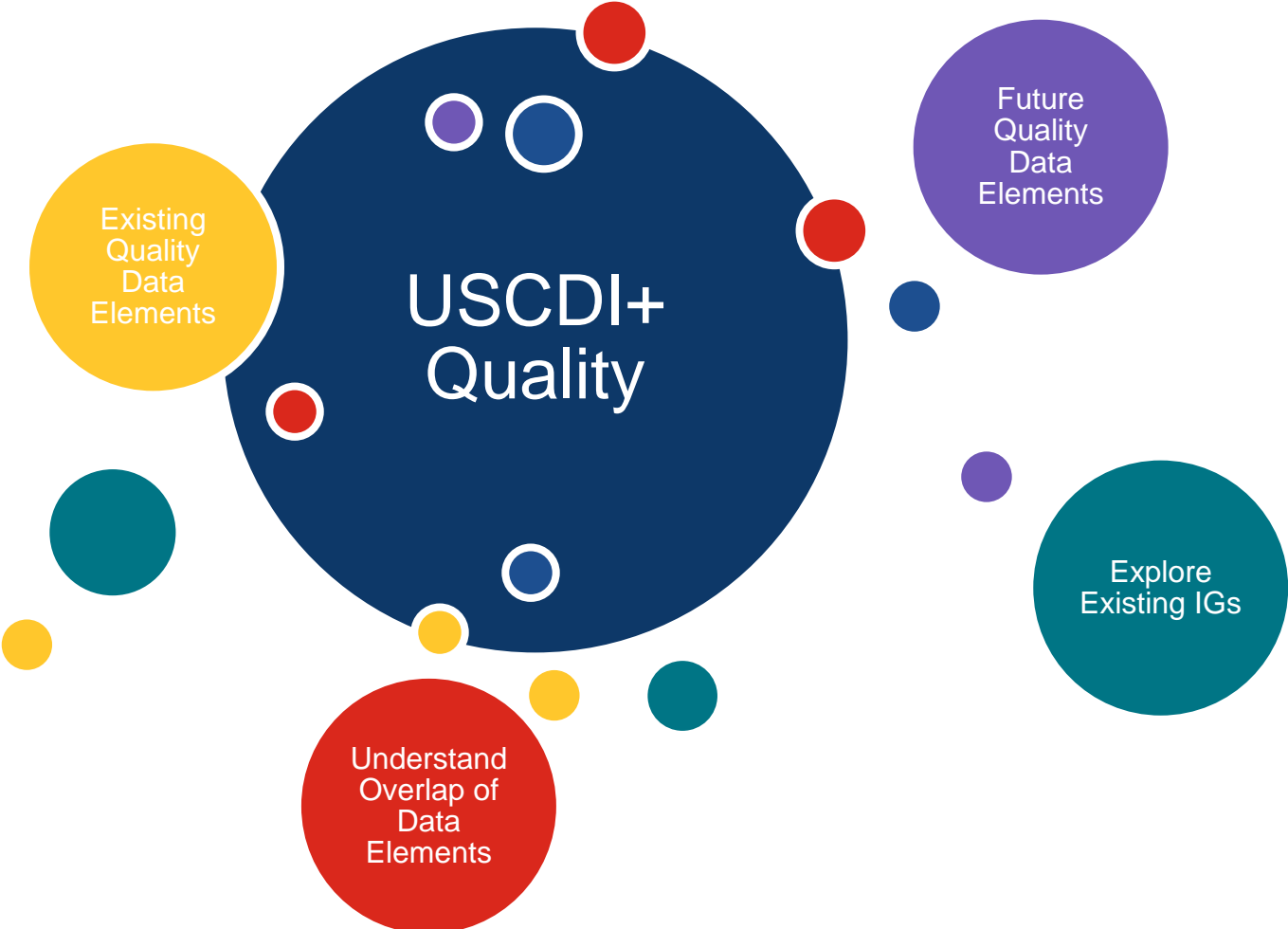Options for conformance and piloting explored

USCDI+ Quality Domain

- Capture the data needs for quality reporting that fall outside the scope of USCDI to support streamlined development and reporting of quality measures.

- Harmonize quality data elements into a common data element list for quality that addresses multiple partner needs.

- Support CMS' Digital Quality Measures (dQM) strategy and development of harmonized data element lists for FHIR-based quality reporting.

- Support HRSA's Uniform Data System (UDS) Modernization Initiative

- Identify opportunities for policy alignment around quality reporting programs under existing authorities across HHS agencies.
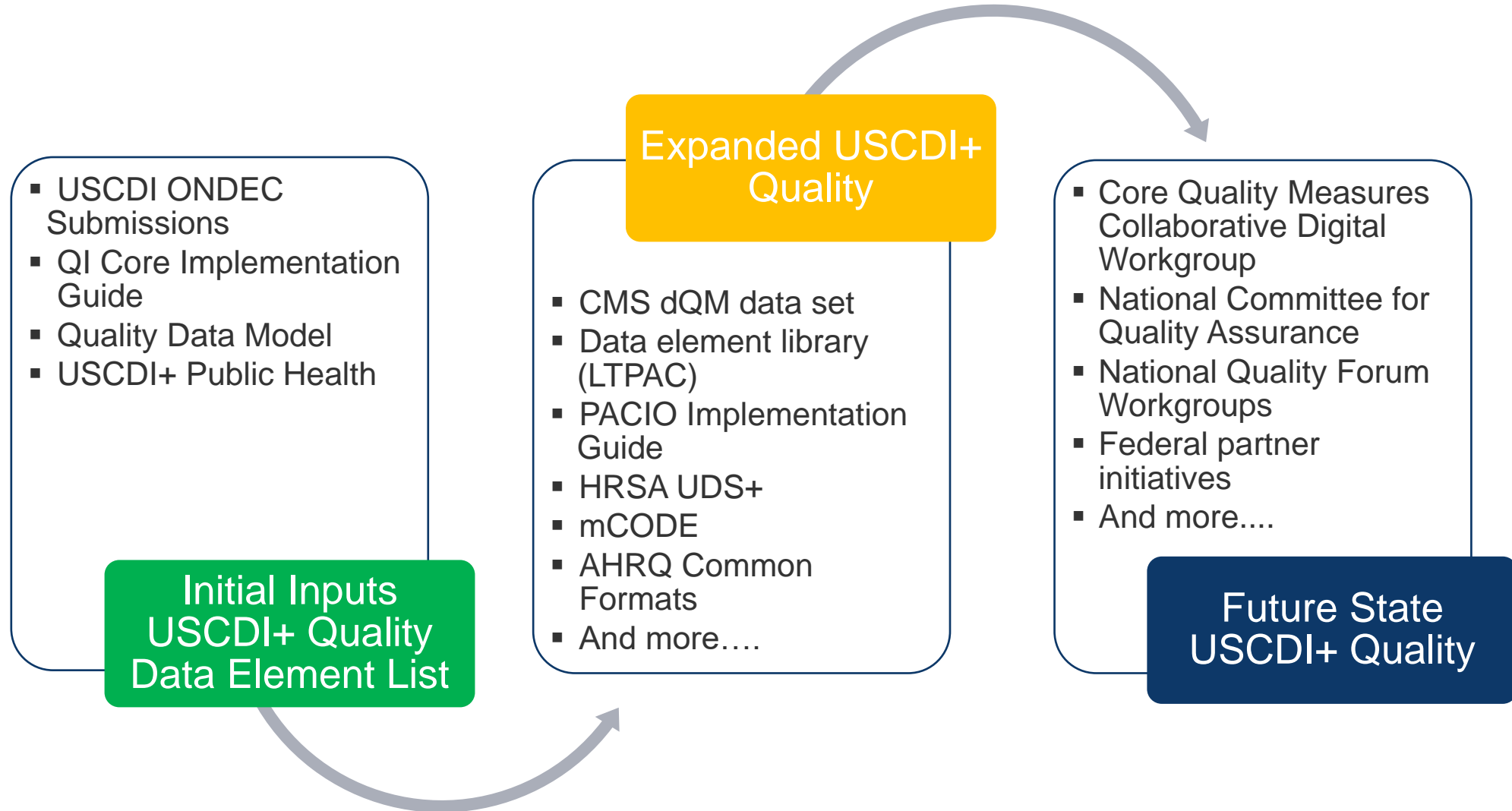
Payers

Registries   States

CMS   Measure and Developers and Stewards

USCDI+ Quality

USCDI+ Equity

USCDI

USCDI+ Public Health

USCDI+ Research

Making the USCDI+ Quality Data Element List

USCDI+ Quality Data Activities

- USCDI ONDEC Submissions
- QI Core Implementation Guide
- Quality Data Model
- USCDI+ Public Health

Initial Inputs USCDI+ Quality Data Element List

Expanded USCDI+ Quality

- CMS dQM data set
- Data element library (LTPAC)
- PACIO Implementation Guide
- HRSA UDS+
- mCODE
- AHRQ Common Formats
- And more....

- Core Quality Measures Collaborative Digital Workgroup
- National Committee for Quality Assurance
- National Quality Forum Workgroups
- Federal partner initiatives
- And more....

Future State USCDI+ Quality

Using USCDI+ Quality

Once established, measure developers and stewards can specify to USCDI and USCDI+ Quality as the basis for measure development.

- Specialties redesigning measures to meet changing clinical guidelines can leverage the data element list to define clinical concepts that can be assessed from data created through clinical care rather than from subsequent administrative documentation and abstraction.

- Quality improvement organizations working with clinicians, researchers and the public health community can build measures to help define a set of core clinical concepts to aggregate and analyze across the full scope of different systems, settings, and programs.

- Utilizing the data element list for measure specification can drive further identification of gaps and activities to address those gaps.

Review of USCDI+ Quality and Moving Toward Implementation

USCDI+ Quality Data Element List Review

- In May 2023, ONC released a data element list for input on:

  - Specified data elements that can be added to the data element list now

  - Opportunities for harmonization

  - Future priorities for expanding the data element list

- Ongoing input over time into the data element list will ensure that we are maintaining an updated data element list with the same transparency as with the regular USCDI process.

Snapshot of Draft USCDI+ Quality Data Element List

Draft USCDI+QM Data Class	Draft USCDI+QM Data Element	USCDI+ Level	Source
Advance Directives	Care Experience Preference	Level 2	Proposed for USCDI+ Quality
Cancer Care	Cancer Stage Group (non- TNM staging classification systems)	Comment	mCode
Clinical Notes	Cause of death	Comment	AHRQ Common Format for Event Reporting
Clinical Tests	Clinical Test	USCDI v3	existing CMS eCQM element
Clinical Tests	Clinical Test Result / Report	USCDI v3	existing CMS eCQM element
Medications	Medication Administration	Level 2	Proposed for USCDI+ Quality, existing CMS eCQM element
Medications	Medication Discharge	Level 2	Proposed for USCDI+ Quality, existing CMS eCQM element
Medications	Medications	USCDI v3	Proposed for USCDI+ Quality, existing CMS eCQM element
Medications	Days Supply	Comment	existing CMS eCQM element
Newborn Delivery Information	Birth Outcomes	Comment	Draft Maternal Health Data Set
Patient Demographics/Information	Zip Code	Level 2	HRSA UDS+
Problems	Date of Onset	Level 2	Proposed for USCDI+ Quality, existing CMS eCQM element
Problems	Date of Diagnosis	USCDI v2	Proposed for USCDI+ Quality, existing CMS eCQM element

Summary of New Data Classes/Data Elements in USCDI+ Quality

- Several proposed data classes
  - Care Experience and Outcomes
  - Communications

- Approximately 100 data elements not currently in a finalized version of USCDI
  - Data elements incorporated from USCDI Level 2 and important for quality
    - Medication Administration
    - Date of Onset
  - Several deemed USCDI+ "Comment" level while ONC seeks feedback on importance and adoption
    - Multiple Birth Order
    - Cancer Stage Group

USCDI+ Quality: Next Steps & Timeframes

- Request and analyze feedback on the draft USCDI+ Quality data element list from government and industry partners: https://ecqi.healthit.gov/uscdi-quality

- Harmonize identified data elements with other USCDI+ initiatives (e.g. public health use cases, UDS+ reporting).

- Understand remaining standards gaps and priorities and identify ways to address gaps; next focus on safety, NCQA HEDIS measure, and behavioral health, among others.

- Seek input from additional partners and request additional data elements to include in the USCDI+ Quality data element list: https://ecqi.healthit.gov/uscdi-quality.

  - **Deadline for Initial Feedback: Friday, June 30, 2023**

- Release an updated data element list later in 2023 to reflect initial comments and add to the list of quality measure needs.

Questions for Discussion

- **Level of Specificity:** What is the level of specificity we should prioritize with the USCDI+ Quality data element list?

- **Levers for Advancement in Adoption:** How can we leverage this work for other quality measurement work?

- **Frequency of updates:** ONC's updates to the USCDI and standards advisories typically occur once a year. One goal for USCDI+ is to help stakeholders with tailored needs to establish standardized data sets in a more flexible manner. What frequency of updates to USCDI+ Quality would be useful for achieving this objective?

Stay Informed!
Resources

- [Health IT Buzz | The Latest on Health Information Technology from ONC](#)

- [United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) | Interoperability Standards Advisory (ISA) (healthit.gov)](#)

- [Standards Version Advancement Process | Interoperability Standards Advisory (ISA) (healthit.gov)](#)

- [USCDI+ | HealthIT.gov](#)

Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

Thank you!

Questions? Email: USCDI.Plus@hhs.gov

HealthIT.gov