Faculty Disclosures

Allison Lance has no financial relationships to disclose relating to the subject matter of this presentation.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, learners will be able to:

1. Describe the current state of the Digital Transition

2. Discuss key attributes of the NCQA Digital Quality Playbook

Agenda

- Digital Transition Update
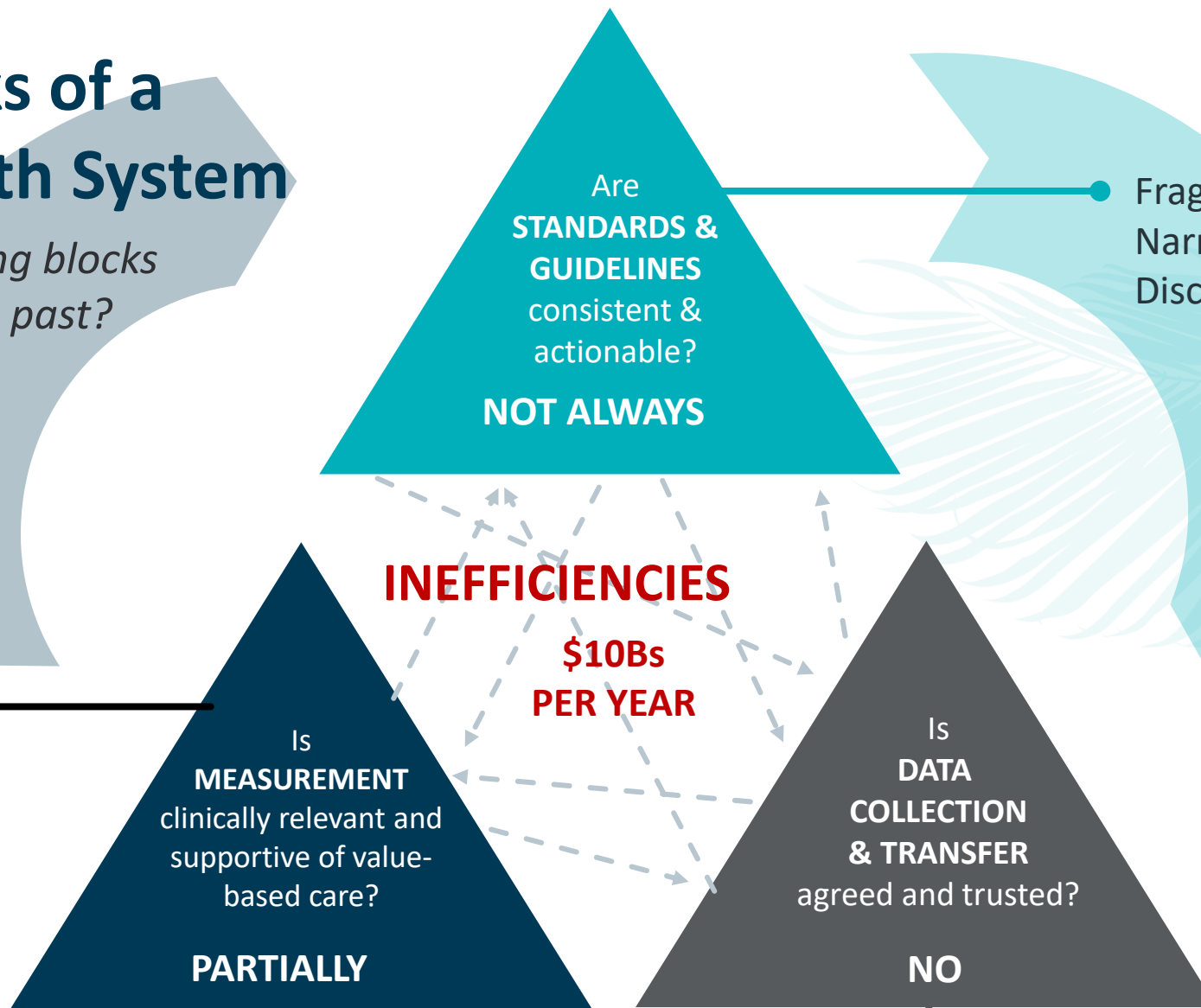- Digital Community Update

Building Blocks of a Learning Health System

How have these building blocks worked together in the past?

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Are **STANDARDS & GUIDELINES** consistent & actionable?

NOT ALWAYS

Fragmented
Narrative-based
Disconnected

"Specs" only
Limited by data
Retrospective

INEFFICIENCIES

$10Bs PER YEAR

Is **MEASUREMENT** clinically relevant and supportive of value-based care?

PARTIALLY

Is **DATA COLLECTION & TRANSFER** agreed and trusted?

NO

Variation
Non-standardized
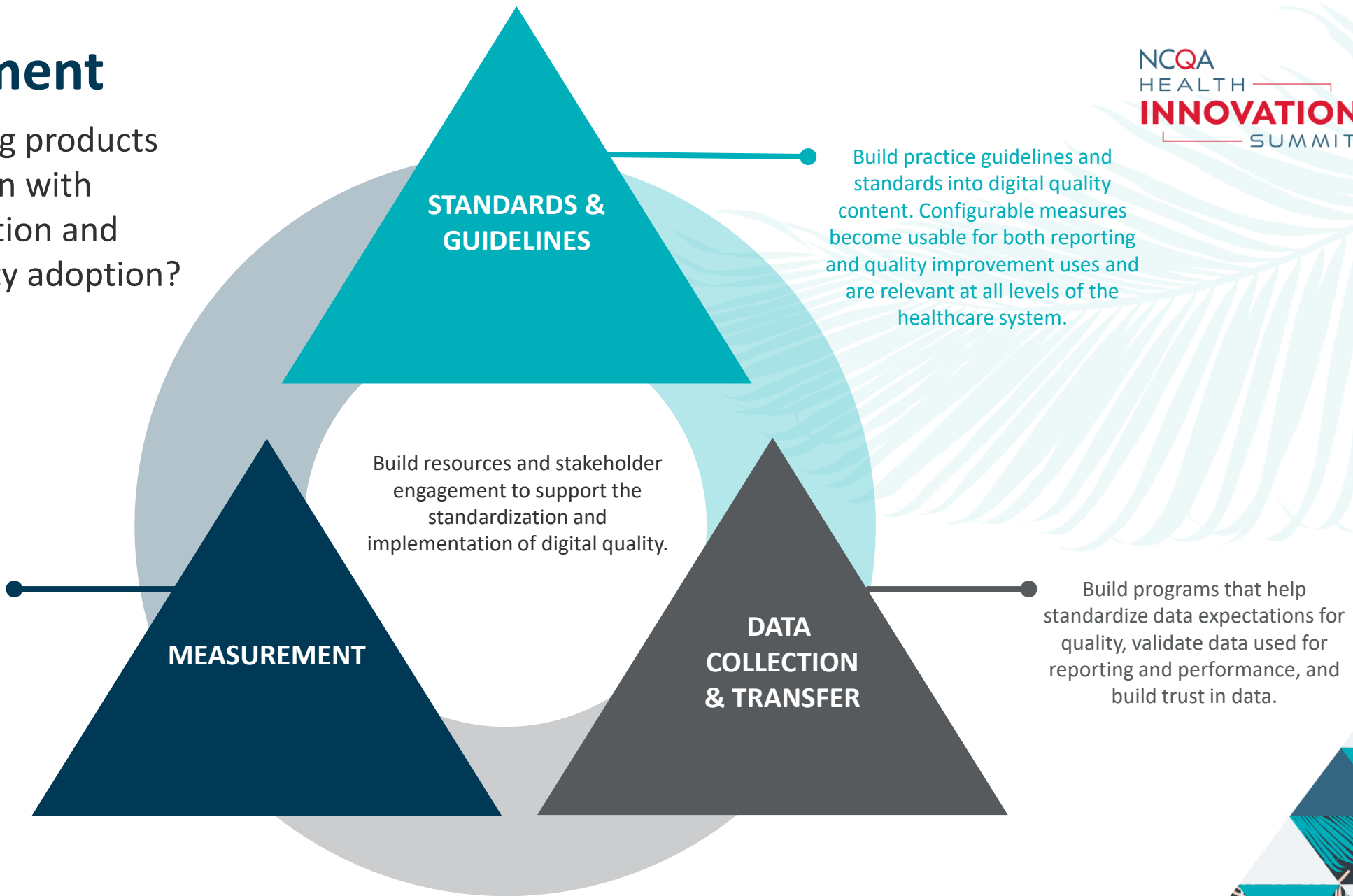Need for validation

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Industry Standardization

How the industry is moving from a fragmented approach to greater standardization, enabling a digital quality learning health system?

STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

Quality Standards

Clinical Decision Support

Clinical Practice Guidelines

STANDARDS, INFRASTRUCTURE, TOOLS & RESOURCES
Clinical Quality Language (CQL)
Fast Health Interoperability Resources (FHIR)

MEASUREMENT

Digital Quality Measures (dQMs)

Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs)

DATA COLLECTION & TRANSFER

FHIR® Data Standards: USCDI, Carin for Blue Button, Electronic Case Report, Gravity

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NCQA Alignment

How NCQA is building products and programs to align with industry standardization and support digital quality adoption?

STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

Build practice guidelines and standards into digital quality content. Configurable measures become usable for both reporting and quality improvement uses and are relevant at all levels of the healthcare system.

Build resources and stakeholder engagement to support the standardization and implementation of digital quality.

MEASUREMENT

DATA COLLECTION & TRANSFER

Build and deliver better measures that are more clinically relevant and better support reporting and value-based incentive programs. Digitalized measures increase ease of measure use and implementation.

Build programs that help standardize data expectations for quality, validate data used for reporting and performance, and build trust in data.

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Digital Quality Offerings: Roadmap

	2023 Q3	Q4	2024 Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2025 Q1	Q2

Actionable Content (Standards & Guidelines)

Configurable HEDIS® DQMs with encoded clinical guidelines to support expanded use cases using Digital Content Services reference CQL engine

70+ HEDIS® DQMs with encoded clinical guidelines to support expanded use cases for use on any supported CQL engine

Digital Content Services (DCS): Early Adopter

Digital Content Services: General Availability

Measurement (Digital Measures)

70+ HEDIS® dQMs for development and learning (e.g., results comparison) using reference CQL engine

70+ HEDIS® dQMs for health plan reporting with any supported CQL engine

Enablement (Aligned Infrastructure)

Open-Source Reference CQL Engine

Digital Quality Implementers Community

HEDIS® Core Implementation Guide

Digital Community (Resources, Best Practices, Peer Learning, etc.)

Data Collection (FHIR®)

Data Aggregator Validation - FHIR

Bulk FHIR® Data Quality Coalition

Data Quality Self-Assessment Tool

Automation-First FHIR ® Validation

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Digital Quality Offerings: Roadmap

	2023 Q3	Q4	2024 Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2025 Q1	Q2

Digital Content Services Early Adopter Program

Digital Content Services General Availability

Actionable Content (Standards & Guidelines)

Begin using NCQA Digital HEDIS® content for quality improvement and population management applications.

Use more consistent, prospective guideline content encoded for quality improvement.

Measurement (Digital Measures)

Gain familiarity with NCQA Digital HEDIS® content and begin using measures on reference CQL engine.

Run digital measures on supported vendor CQL engine. Test against reference CQL engine as desired.

Enablement (Aligned Infrastructure)

Leverage open-source code and Digital Quality Implementer Community to develop and test CQL engines to support digital HEDIS® and other common use cases (e.g., CMS)

Leverage Implementers Community to improve CQL engine in alignment with common requirements (e.g., NCQA, CMS, ONC)

Data Collection (FHIR®)

Assess your data quality and maturity against FHIR® standards for quality uses. Optimize your data pipeline (inputs and outputs) for quality use.
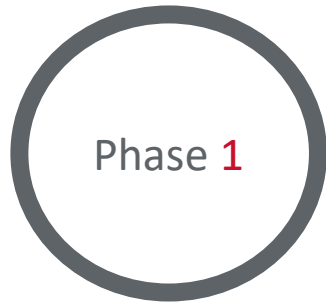
Source and validate more electronic data for trusted quality insights and measure reporting at lower cost and burden.

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NCQA Transition from Traditional HEDIS to

The Digital Transition will engage both HEDIS Health Plan Reporting & Quality Improvement

PAPER & PEOPLE   **FULLY DIGITAL**

Phase 1

Digital Introduction

2023

Phase 2

Digitally Enabled

2024 - 2026

Phase 3

Fully Digital

TBD
(announced in 2024)

Phase 4

Digital Only

~2030

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Digital Quality Transition Highlights By Phase

Phase 1
Digital Introduction
2023

- Current Early Adopters

- Subset of VBC measures

- Reference CQL Engine through Digital Content Services for measure processing.

Phase 2
Digitally Enabled
2024 -2026

- Admin components of measures fully digital.

- Digital measures (dQMs) delivered through DCS

- Addition of Pre-Certification & Digital Certification

- Ability to use Digital Measures for Health Plan Reporting

- Option to use any supported CQL Engine for processing

Phase 3
Fully Digital
TBD Hybrid Transition

- All measures fully digital

- Hybrid measures retired & replaced with measures using full population data collection.

- Option to maintain traditional development and certification

Phase 4
Digital Only
Depending on Market Maturity
~2030

- Sunset Traditional Vol 2 Paper Specs

- Sunset traditional Measure Certification

Digital Quality Transition Highlights: Deeper Dive

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Measure Delivery	• The digital measure bundles will no longer be offered in the NCQA store • Digital Content is available through Digital Content services & organization coding their own measures can use the technical specifications • As measures are transitioned to digital, narrative descriptions will continue to be available for reference.
Hybrid Reporting & Data Collection	• Administrative portion of measure is available via Digital Content Services beginning Phase 2, 2024 • The medical record component for sampling of the clinical data retrieval and collection of clinical data from medical records will use the traditional hybrid protocol until phased out. • Over time, Hybrid measures will be phased out measure-by-measure and replaced with full population reporting, similar to what we've done in the past.
Measure Certification	• Certified measures delivered with the DCS reference engine. • If you are doing traditional measure implementation, you will continue in traditional certification. • If using Digital Content Services with your own or a third-party proprietary CQL engine use Digital Certification. • If you are using Digital Content Services with the included CQL reference engine, you'll will use pre-certification. • New Certification methods will be significantly less burdensome and offer real time feedback.

Digital Certification for proprietary CQL Engines	• The Digital Certification w Process will validate the CQL engine to support NCQA dQM requirements and the implementation of Digital Content Services.
	    • Share test decks via API
	    • Automatic Scoring
	    • API for submission
	• Recommend joining the Digital Quality Implementers' Community for consistent standards and requirements for implementors.

Digital HEDIS® Transition: NCQA's Phased Approach

PAPER SPECS --> FULLY DIGITAL

	Phase 1: Digital Introduction	Phase 2: Digitally Enabled	Phase 3: Fully Digital	Phase 4: Digital Only
Measure Years What measure years will each phase encompass?	2023	2024-2026	TBD dependent on hybrid measure conversion roadmap (timeline will be announced in 2024)	Dependent on market maturity ~2030
Measure Delivery Method What path is taken to receive measure requirements and logic?	Traditional Vol 2 Paper Specs Subset of measures digital Delivery via Digital Content Services	Traditional Vol 2 Paper Specs Digital delivery through Digital Content Services (no longer available via store "bundles")	Traditional Vol 2 Paper Specs Digital Delivery through Digital Content Services	Digital Delivery through Digital Content Services
Digital Measure Availability Which measures are available as digital quality measures?	Subset of measures digital	Admin components of measures fully digital	All measures fully digital	All measures fully digital
Use Cases What different uses will digitalized measures support?	Quality improvement and population mgt	Quality improvement and population mgt HEDIS® health plan reporting	Quality improvement and population mgt HEDIS® health plan reporting	Quality improvement and population mgt HEDIS® health plan reporting
Certification Logic/Validation How does NCQA certify measure logic and execution for reporting?	Traditional Measure Certification	Three options: Pre-Certified, Digital Certification, Traditional Measure Certification (depending on execution framework)	Three options: Pre-Certified, Digital Certification, Traditional Measure Certification (depending on execution framework)	Two options: Pre-Certified or Digital Certification (depending on execution framework)
Execution CQL Engine What path is taken to execute measure requirements and logic?	Traditional development: Build Based on Vol 2 Access CQL reference CQL engine in Digital Content Services	Reference CQL engine through Digital Content Services Use any supported CQL engine Traditional development: Build Based on Vol 2	Reference CQL engine through Digital Content Services Use any supported CQL engine Traditional development: Build Based on Vol 2	Reference CQL engine through Digital Content Services Use anu supported CQL engine
Hybrid Data Collection What is the methodology for collecting data for hybrid measures?	Traditional collection methods	Traditional collection methods (including hybrid sampling)	Sunset hybrid sampling collection measure by measure until all full population	Hybrid measure retired and replaced with measures using full population data collection

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Digital Playbook & Community Preview

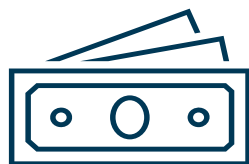# What is the Digital Playbook & Community

WHY is NCQA/our industry doing this?

What do I need to KNOW?

What do I need to DO and WHEN?

What is the BENEFIT/ROI for my organization?

What RESOURCES are available and how do I utilize them?

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Engagement Communities

If you are…

Interested in **Digital Quality Transformation**	Interested in **infrastructure & tools (eg, CQL Engine)**	Interested in understanding and **maturing FHIR data collection**
Engage with peers & resources to plan and implement	Understand the technical requirements & engage with developers	Gain insight into data availability and useability for HEDIS and quality applications

Then you should consider…

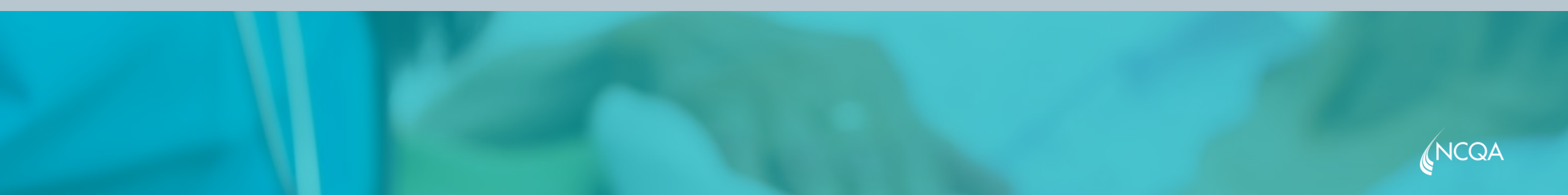|		
Digital Community	**Digital Quality Implementer Community**	**Bulk FHIR Data Quality Coalition**

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NCQA Digital Quality Community

__Digital Quality Community is Live__

Key Takeaways

Key Takeaways

NOW

All HEDIS® measures will be digitalized next year and delivered through NCQA Digital Content Services.

WHAT IT MEANS

- DCS Early Adapter:
  - Begin to gain insights into digital measures and FHIR data.
  - Build infrastructure, test, and compare results
- DCS General Availability (2024):
  - Use digitalized measures on any CQL engine that meets standard-based requirements.
  - Using digital measures will reduce Measure Certification burden.

NEXT

Hybrid data collection methodology will be sunset measure by measure and transition to digitalized full population data collection.

WHAT IT MEANS

- Hybrid measures will be phased out measure by measure.
- The ability of Digital Content Services to use clinical data will lessen the need for medical chart review
- The Admin portion of the measure and population sample will be digital.

LATER

In the future, organizations that reference HEDIS® Volume 2 to build measures will instead use digitalized measures.

WHAT IT MEANS

- Eliminates the need to interpret HEDIS® specs and code measures.
- Measures will run on any standards-based CQL engine.
- Eliminates the need for traditional Measure Certification.
- CQL engine maintainers should begin planning for this transition.

In Summary

- The Digital Transition will take time and happen over 4 phases.
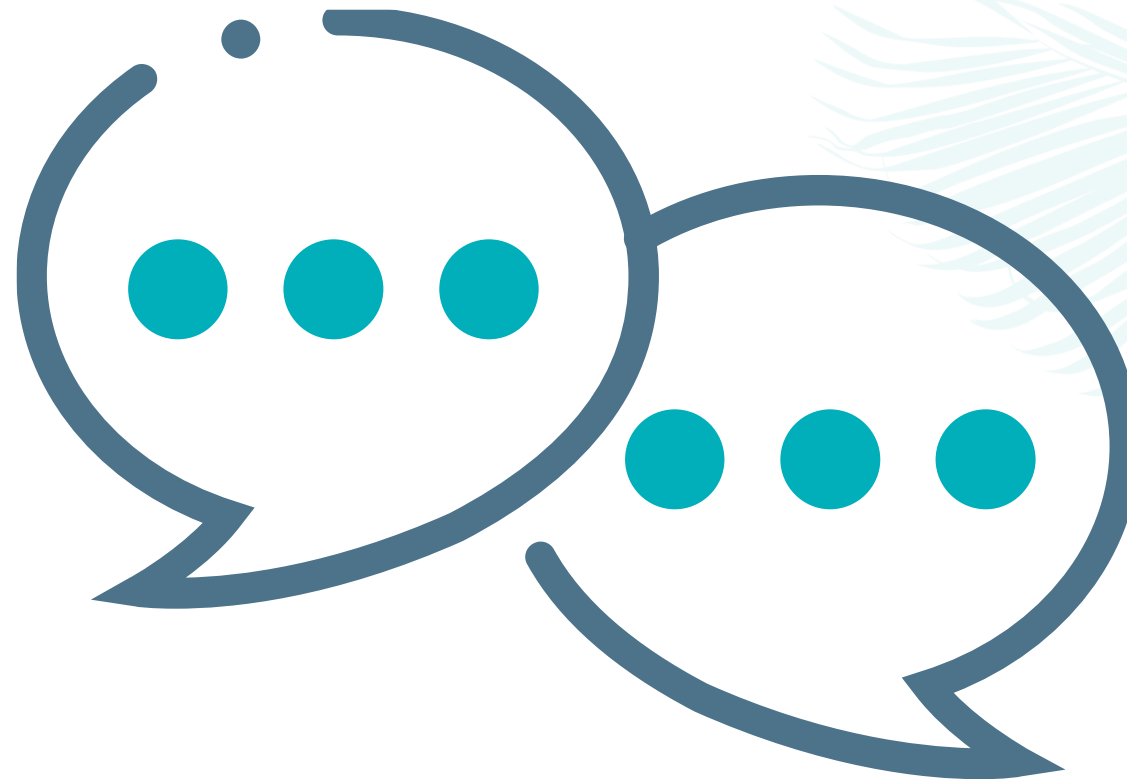- Take the time now to start planning & determining your roadmap & timeline.

| Identify your business need & priorities | Identify strategies for digital content, digital data, enablement | Chose the right NCQA programs and communities | Choose the right timing | Engage with NCQA via our Digital Community or Account Executives |

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Thank You

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