



The New Name for Quality Measures in GI Endoscopy is “GIQuIC”
Announcing the Quality Improvement Registry for Endoscopy

February 23, 2010 – The GI Quality Improvement Consortium, Ltd. (GIQuIC) has formed a partnership with Outcome Sciences® to develop and operate a national GI endoscopy data repository for storage and maintenance of endoscopic quality measures. GIQuIC is a collaboration of the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) and the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE).

The national rollout of the new registry will occur in the second quarter of this year. The initial objective will be to develop measures for quality in colonoscopy, with additional measures added at a later date.

“We created GIQuIC based on a belief that the scientific measurement of the quality of endoscopic procedures will provide valid and reliable comparative information to participating physicians and facilities to support their quality improvement initiatives,” explained Irving M. Pike, M.D., FACG, FASGE.

“These measures offer a practical, objective method to grade performance for individual endoscopists, and will help to prepare GI physicians and facilities for future reporting requirements from public and private insurers,” said Thomas M. Deas Jr., M.D., FACG, FASGE.

The pilot study supporting proof of concept for this new national GI endoscopy data repository has been completed, with the major endowriter and electronic medical record (EMR) companies participating. An audit of the pilot data informed the development of the national registry which will allow participating physicians, ASCs and hospitals to better gauge performance. Ultimately, GIQuIC’s goal is to apply the lessons learned beyond endoscopic procedures to the range of GI consultative services either electronically or through a secure internet-based portal for those practices not using endowriters or EMR systems.

Outcome Sciences® will bring its extensive experience and broad expertise in outcomes studies to power GIQuIC in its mission to establish recognized standards for high quality GI endoscopic procedures and other key GI conditions and provide benchmarking reports for gastroenterologists. Founded in 1998, Cambridge, MA-based Outcome™ is a leader in developing registries and conducting post-approval research and quality improvement initiatives.

“Our expectation is that benchmarking will gradually improve the quality of endoscopies being performed throughout the United States as well as other physician/patient interactions while limiting the possibility of injury to the patient and improving patient outcomes,” said ASGE President Jacques Van Dam, M.D., FACG, FASGE.

“With GIQuIC, GI endoscopists will have a mechanism to report their performance against measurable processes and practices at the national level. Ultimately, the goal of GIQuIC is to apply the lessons learned beyond endoscopic procedures to the broad range of GI consultative services,” commented ACG President Philip O. Katz, M.D., FACG.

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For additional information about GIQuIC please visit www.giquic.org. Or please send any inquiries to giquic@acg.gi.org

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