

Please describe the methodology that you used in creating the list, and list the individuals who participated in the process of selecting the chosen interventions. Please also provide any written guidance that was given to participants.

Participation

The American Society of Nephrology (ASN) maintains a Quality and Patient Safety (QPS) Task Force, chaired by Amy Williams, MD. The task force is charged with a variety of responsibilities related to improving quality and patient safety and raising awareness of these issues within the field of nephrology—including leading ASN's participation in the ABIM Foundation Choosing Wisely Campaign. (Tab 1.)

The task force is comprised of one member of ASN's ten advisory groups, as well as ASN President Ronald J. Falk, MD and ASN Public Policy Board President Thomas H. Hostetter, MD. (Tab 2.) ASN maintains ten advisory groups that are responsible for providing expertise in education, communications, policy, and grants related to their specific areas of focus. The chairs of each of these ten advisory groups were asked to nominate one expert from their group who has a background in quality or patient safety issues to serve on the task force. All members who were invited to serve on the task force accepted the nomination. The task force is staffed by ASN Manager of Policy and Government Affairs Rachel N. Shaffer.

Methodology

The QPS Task Force convened its first conference call to discuss the Choosing Wisely Campaign on Monday, October 10, 2011. The task force reviewed the materials ABIM provided, discussed the goals of the campaign, and outlined the process for moving forward.

Each member went back to their respective advisory group and, with the assistance of Ms. Shaffer, explained the goals and structure of the Choosing Wisely Campaign. Each advisory group was asked to submit ideas of tests and procedures that should be reconsidered or ceased altogether within their specific area of expertise in nephrology. Ms. Shaffer collated all ideas submitted by task force members—totaling more than 100—and shared them with the task force for review.

The task force convened another conference call during which each member presented the three to five items that its advisory group felt most important to consider including in ASN's Top Five list. After a group discussion, the task force narrowed the list down to approximately 20 potential items they believed would be most influential.

Task Force members then voted on what they considered to be the seven most important items of the twenty via an online survey tool (SurveyMonkey). The results of the survey narrowed the list to six clear top contenders, with at least 50 percent of the task force voting for them. (Tab 3.)

The eight-member ASN Public Policy Board (which oversees the QPS Task Force) then reviewed the list of six final potential items during a conference call on December 21, 2011, considering the items' likely impact on patient care as well as their appropriateness and

potential influence relative to other potential items. The Public Policy Board unanimously voted to eliminate one item on the task force's list, and to approve the remaining five items.

With the list of five items finalized, Dr. Williams and Ms. Shaffer assigned two members of the task force to draft evidentiary statements and list of the primary organization(s) whose resources or research evidence to support the item. Task force members were again supplied with the template provided by ABIM and asked to follow the suggested format. (Tab 4.) Ms. Shaffer also followed up with each pair individually to ensure that they had a clear understanding of what ASN and the ABIM Foundation expected them to produce.

The task force members were given approximately two weeks to develop the descriptive materials listed above. Ms. Shaffer and Dr. Williams reviewed the draft statements and source lists and worked with task force members to revise them as needed.

The final list of five items was sent to the ASN Council to review and approve, reject, or suggest improvements on January 13, 2012. (Tab 5.) The Council discussed the draft list in detail during a conference call with Dr. Williams on January 20, 2012, who presented the document along with Ms. Shaffer. The Council unanimously approved a motion to approve ASN's recommendations for the ABIM Foundation Choosing Wisely Campaign, and recommended three minor diction-related modifications to the document.

The Quality and Patient Safety Task Force considered the recommendations from Council and determined to make the three suggested changes, thereby finalizing the society's "Top 5" list.