



# Approaching Equity Measurement through Integrated Standards and Measures

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# THE BIG IDEA

- > Quality care is equitable care
- > No quality without equity
- > Build equity into all quality programs

# NCQA's Work

*Quality, equity and accountability at multiple levels of the healthcare system*



## Mission

To improve the quality of health care



## Vision

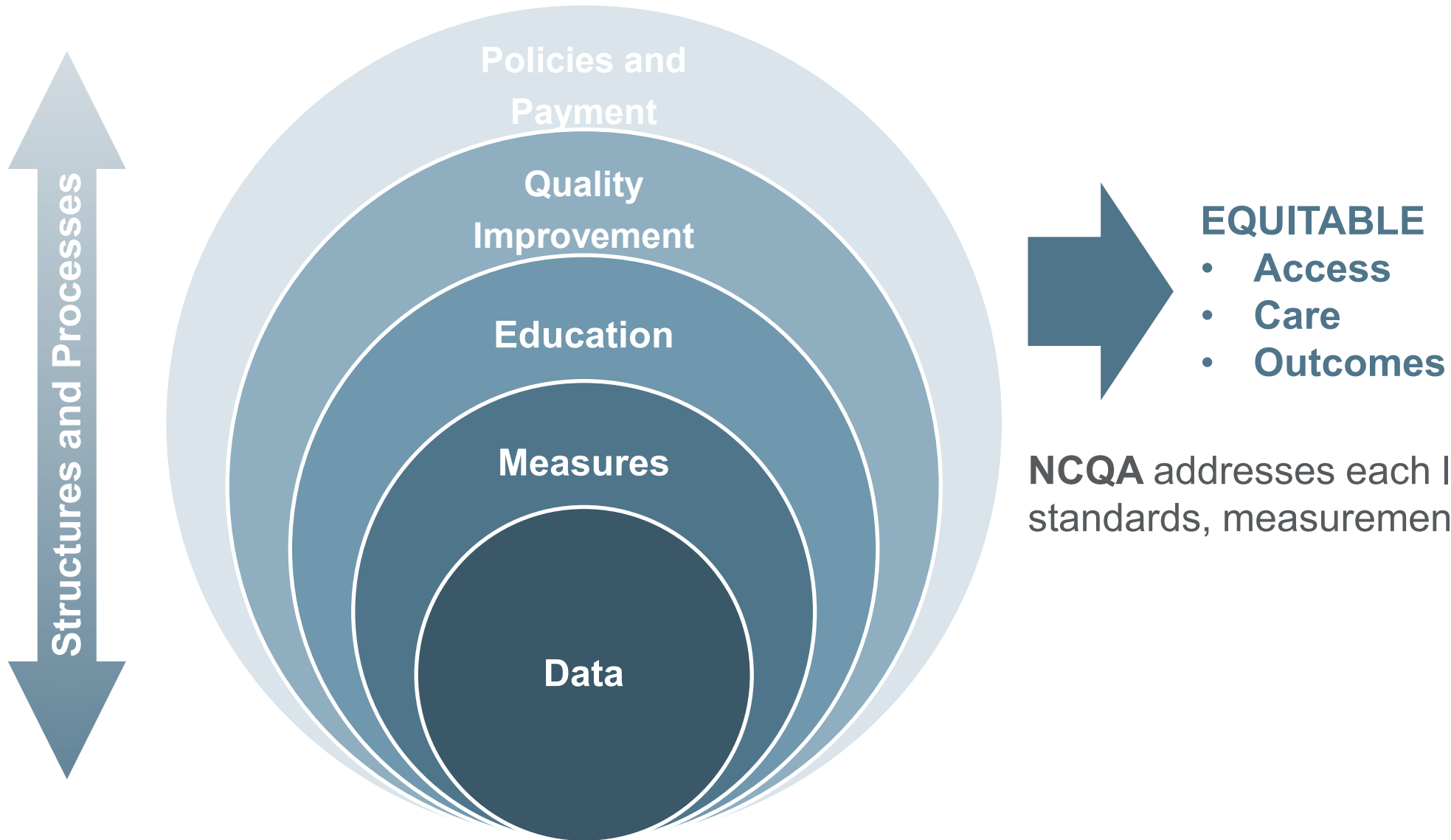
To transform health care through quality measurement, transparency & accountability



**We can't have quality without equity.**

# Systems and structures are central to health equity

*What's needed in health care to become equitable?*



**NCQA** addresses each level through standards, measurement and research.

# NCQA's Health Equity Accreditation



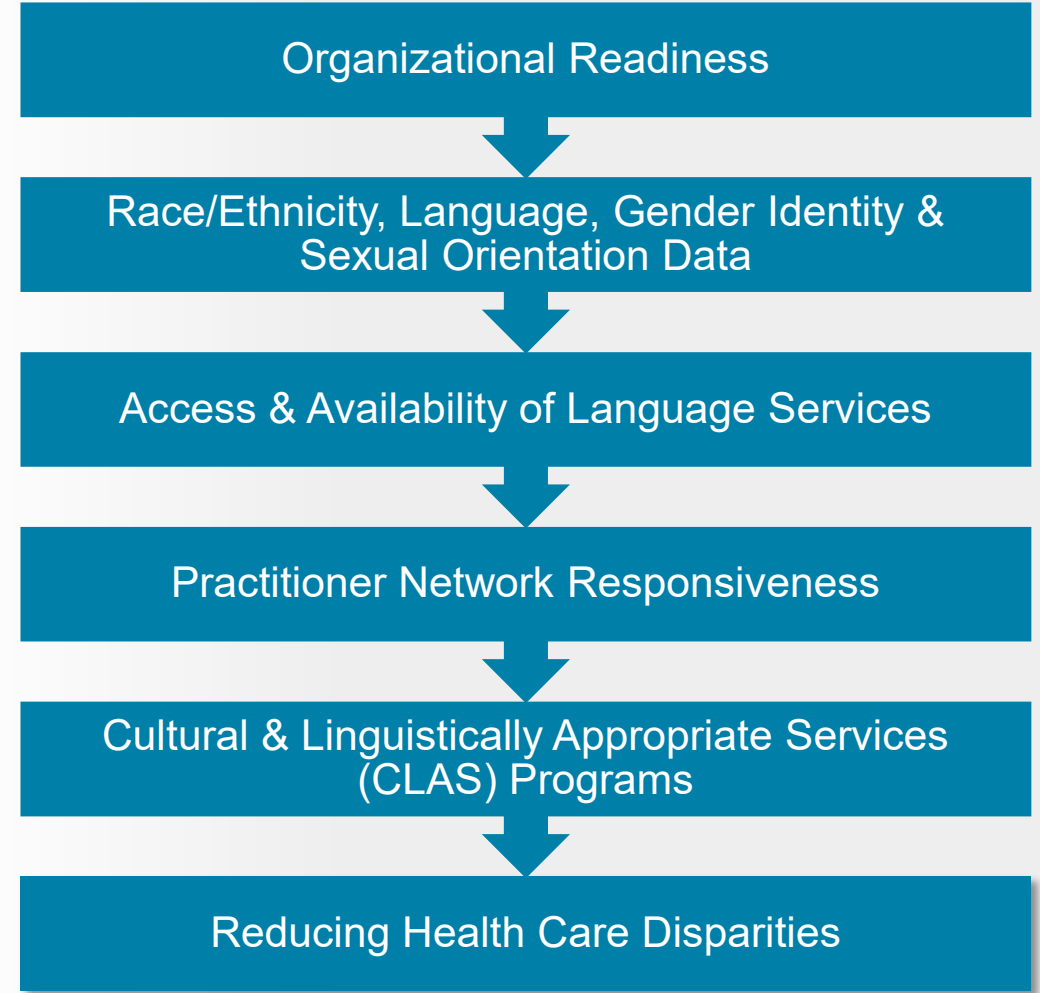
3-Year Standards-based program



Designed for **organizations beginning their health equity journey** or **looking for structure and accountability to improve existing health equity work.**



Focused **on collecting data** to understand members' or patients' needs, then **identify and act on opportunities to reduce disparities and improve the cultural and linguistic appropriateness of care.**



# NCQA's Health Equity Accreditation **Plus**



3-Year Standards-based program



**Builds on NCQA's Health Equity Accreditation** (its prerequisite).



**Designed for organizations progressing to the next step of their health equity journey.**



**Focused on partnering with community-based organizations and cross-sector partners to address social needs** of individuals served and **mitigate social risks of the community.**



# Addressing Health Equity through Measurement

*Equity in HEDIS*



- **Bring transparency** to inequities in health care quality.
- **Promote inclusive approaches** to measurement and accountability.
- **Address social risks** to improve health outcomes.
- **Incentivize equity** with benchmarks and performance scoring.

Race and Ethnicity Stratification	Social Connection
Social Need Screening and Intervention	Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity
Disability ( <i>Anticipated 2024</i> )	

# Incentivize Equity

*Bridging Measures and Programs*



## Health Plan Ratings

- “Race and Ethnicity Diversity of Membership” added and scored for data completeness in HPR 2023



## Health Equity Accreditation

- Required reporting of the HEDIS MY 2022 measures stratified by Race/Ethnicity (COL, CBP, HBD, PPC, WCV)
- Required collection of sexual orientation & gender identity data (18 and older)



# Rethinking How We Measure Equity

## *A Framework for Equity Measurement*

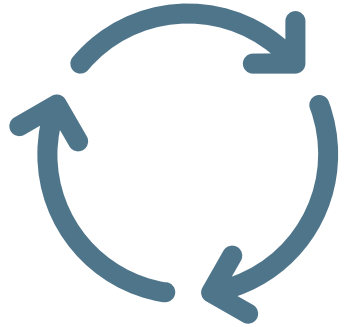


**Six domains, twenty-one measures.**

Identified opportunities for future development:

- Expand patient-reported measures
- Intersectional approaches
- Identify scoring approaches to integrate range of measures

# Data and Intent



*The priorities we set determine the questions we ask.*

*The questions we ask determine the data we need.*

*The data we have determine the questions we can answer.*

# Relevant Resources

- [NAM Perspective: “An Equity Agenda for the Field of Health Care Quality Improvement”](#)
- [NCQA Health Equity Accreditation and Health Equity Accreditation Plus](#)
- [Federal Action is Needed to Improve Race and Ethnicity Data in Health Programs](#)
- [Improving Data on Race and Ethnicity: A Roadmap to Measure and Advance Health Equity](#)
- [Current Health Plan Approaches to Race and Ethnicity Data: Collection and Recommendations for Future Improvements](#)
- [Race and Ethnicity Stratification Learning Network Report](#)
- [Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health in HEDIS: Data for Measurement](#)
- [Evaluating Medicaid’s Use of Quality Measurement to Achieve Equity Goals](#)
- [Advancing Health Equity Measurement: A Recommended Measurement Framework for Accountability in Medicaid](#)
- [Measuring Health Equity: A Review of Scoring Approaches](#)