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## COMMUNIQUE FIRST QUARTER 2024

The first quarter of 2024 is already something of the past. It is a privilege to share with you some of the highlights.

### *Clinical Advisory Board*

The CAB (Clinical Advisory Board) completed its review of the indicators for the 2024 Report. Some new indicators have been added, some were amended, a few were dropped, and others are still work in progress. The world of practising medicine continues to change. The annual review process includes researching the latest literature and clinical guidelines on the indicators to ensure they remain relevant and up to date.

NMG (HQA's consulting actuaries) examined the indicator changes proposed by the CAB, and confirmed it can be accommodated in the 2024 Report. The 2024 Report will include capitation and wellness data where readily available. Including laboratory results is more complex and is work in progress.

The TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) at their last meeting in April 2024 agreed that the next step in the enhancement of the scoring 'aggregate coverage' algorithm is for a clinical relevance weighting to be determined by the CAB, with input and support from the TAC.

### *Outcomes measurement using a prostate cancer registry*

HQA's first registry, a pilot study on localised prostate cancer, is about to kick off. The clinical protocol received SAMAREC ethics approval, and a data capturing tool has been developed on RedCap, hosted by Wits. Doctors and hospitals are in the process of signing up and testing the system whereafter training and support will be provided by HQA. Once sufficient data has been captured, an outcomes report will be generated for the participating doctors, by NMG.

### *General practitioner and hospital reporting*

Following the successful completion of a healthcare quality report for general practitioners, the HQA Board approved a comprehensive roll out to the wider general practitioner community. The HQA Board also approved the development of a healthcare quality report for hospitals. Obtaining consent from medical schemes to use the data HQA receives for the scheme reports, is now in progress. Reports for doctors and hospitals will begin with using existing data and indicators, and will gradually evolve over time. Participation is voluntary and reporting will be confidential, the same scenario as for participating schemes. These developments are part of HQA's strategic drive to fully implement the recommendations of the HMI (Health Market Inquiry).

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Directors: BA Dickson (Chairperson) Dr JHB Steenekamp (Vice Chairperson)  
Prof MN Chetty\*, S Collie, Dr G Goolab, Dr V Gqola, Dr U Mahlati, M Marais, Dr PJ Matley, Dr U Pillay, Dr K Smith, Dr P Soko, G Timothy\*  
(\*Alternate Director)

*HQA's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Industry Results Presentation and Conference*

A program for HQA's 20<sup>th</sup> annual Industry Results Presentation and Clinical Quality Conference on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2024 is in the process of being developed. Any suggestions for topics and/or speakers are welcomed and shall be considered for inclusion if received in time.

Public reporting is work in progress. The aim is to build up to a press conference coinciding with the Annual Industry Results Presentation and Clinical Quality Conference.

HQA cannot exist without its members and the support from its stakeholders, and everyone participating and collaborating at various levels.

Your support is much appreciated.

Louis Botha  
CEO HQA

April 2024

"If you want to achieve something important, dream big, start small, but begin immediately."  
Anonymous