



## COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABLE PHYSICIAN PRACTICES

An affiliate of the AMGA Foundation

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# Moving the Needle on Meaningful Health Care Quality Measurement

## PART 1 OF IMPLEMENTING HEALTH SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

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### PREAMBLE

During the 2016 election season, the Council of Accountable Physician Practices (CAPP) urged political candidates at all levels to focus on three critical health policy issues.<sup>1</sup> These issues — or platforms — can support a better health care delivery system and should be at the top of every policymaker's and thought leader's health care agenda:

- IMPROVED AND HARMONIZED QUALITY MEASUREMENT AND REPORTING
- ROBUST AND COORDINATED USE OF HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- VALUE-BASED PAYMENT

*In this brief, the first in a three-part series entitled "Implementing Health System Improvement," the physician leaders of CAPP provide more detailed guidance to elected officials, members of the administration, and other thought leaders about how to move forward on one of these issues: quality measurement and reporting.*

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### KEY POINTS

- Quality measurement and reporting are foundational to achieving a health care system that is of higher quality as well as more efficient and patient-centered than what most Americans experience today. However, the uncoordinated growth of quality-measurement initiatives has created multiple parallel systems with hundreds of measures that place an unsustainable burden on health care providers. Information produced by these systems does not contribute meaningfully to improved health and wellbeing and is not easily understood by consumers.
- A more meaningful quality-measurement system would have two key characteristics, compared to today's non-system: fewer measures and better measures, focusing on clinical areas where there is good evidence that improvements in performance translate into improvements in health.