The National Pathology Quality Registry (NPQR) is a national quality and benchmarking program led by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). This powerful Registry captures data that measure adherence to clinical practice guideline recommendations, quality and performance standards, and appropriate use criteria (AUC) for laboratories.

The program goal is to improve patient outcomes by helping laboratories assess and improve their quality and performance in key ways, including:

**Monitoring**
Appropriate Utilization of Laboratory Testing

**Improving**
Pre-Analytical Processes Optimizing Turnaround Time and Critical Value Reporting

**Establishing**
Best Practices through National and Peer Group Comparisons

**Assessing**
Analytical and Diagnostic Accuracy

**QUICK PROGRAM FACTS:**

- Developed as a tool for pathologists and laboratory professionals to promote best practices within laboratory medicine. This tool will also benefit our clinical colleagues and ultimately improve patient care.

- Designed with laboratory information system providers, the Registry supports integration with multiple LIS, and includes quality and performance measures spanning the categories outlined above.

- LIS registry certification will be offered at no charge to LIS providers who join the program in its initial year.

- Offered at no charge to laboratories within the first year of Registry operations.

**CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
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Why is the NPQR needed?
A: The NPQR planning process revealed that among laboratories and institutions, there is a need for a guidelines-driven, national quality measurement platform.

Who participated in the design of the NPQR?
A: The NPQR is designed with guidance from your peers. An ASCP-appointed NPQR Registry Steering Committee, along with input from several task forces focusing on specific clinical focus areas has been designing the first version of the Registry. The planning phase of the NPQR included interviews with stakeholders, surveys of ASCP membership priorities, and additional research.

Who can participate?
A: Any US-based clinical pathology (CP), anatomic pathology (AP), or combined AP/CP laboratory can participate in the program. Laboratories can participate individually, or as part of a hospital system, reference lab network, or other group entity.

How will the Registry benefit physicians who participate?
A: The NPQR provides pathologists and laboratory professionals with guidelines-driven performance measurement, benchmarking, and quality improvement capabilities. It enables laboratories to identify areas for improvement, participate in government-required pay for performance programs, integrate results into educational programs, and measure adherence to appropriate use criteria.

What is the cost of participation in the NPQR?
A: At this time, there is no cost to participate in the NPQR.

Do I need to manually enter data, or can I use automated feeds from my existing laboratory systems?
A: In order to minimize manual data entry, ASCP is working with laboratory systems vendors to integrate the Registry directly in their products. Additionally, laboratories that wish to connect their lab systems using their existing information technology capabilities are also allowed to certify for Registry submission.

What reports and other features does the NPQR provide?
A: The Registry provides participants with standard reports as well as interactive dashboards that allow laboratories to analyze their performance across tests, indications, responsible staff, and other dimensions.

Is the data my laboratory provides secure and/or anonymous?
A: Yes, the NPQR is compliant with the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act.