

QualityMetric Awarded SBIR Grants to Develop New Health Assessments

Federal government supports QualityMetric's approach to assessing disease-specific health outcomes using computer adaptive technologies

Lincoln, RI - April 8, 2003 - QualityMetric Incorporated, the world's foremost provider of patient-based general and disease-specific health outcomes surveys, today announced the award of two National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants through its Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. The goal of the SBIR program is to stimulate technological innovation in the private sector and improve the ROI for federally funded research. The grants to QualityMetric will fund tests of the company's Dynamic Health Assessment (DYNHA®) technology to support health assessments of adults with chronic kidney disease and of children with physical disabilities. QualityMetric's exclusive, computer adaptive DYNHA® software makes it possible to match survey questions to each patient's level of health, reducing both respondent burden and data collection costs, and increasing the accuracy of survey scores.

"QualityMetric's business model is based on making the most widely used measures of health outcomes even better, and on taking our surveys outside the confines of research to develop products and services that directly benefit health care," commented John E. Ware, Jr., PhD, chief executive officer and chief science officer of QualityMetric. "The federal government is supporting this model based on the determination, through a rigorous peer-review process, that our dynamic surveys are a priority for commercialization and may provide more practical and more precise tools for improving health outcomes and controlling health care costs," Ware continued.

"QualityMetric partners with corporations and academic institutions to customize the scope and application of our general health and disease specific health outcomes surveys," added Ware. With these SBIR grants, QualityMetric is testing dynamic health surveys in partnership with physicians at New England Medical Center's dialysis clinic, and with colleagues at Boston University's Sargent College of Health and Rehabilitation Science. Stephen Haley, PhD, Director of the Center for Rehabilitation Effectiveness at Sargent commented "We expect that together with our colleagues at QualityMetric, we can make a major contribution to the improving outcomes assessment in the field of pediatric rehabilitation."

QualityMetric is best known for the SF-36v2™, SF-12v2™, and SF-8™ Health Surveys, derived from the original general health surveys that Dr. Ware developed earlier in his career. The company also provides disease-specific surveys and patient-based health outcomes solution sets to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies conducting clinical trials, and to health plans, disease management companies, large employers, and hospitals for risk prediction and outcomes monitoring.

About QualityMetric Incorporated

QualityMetric Incorporated has integrated the consumer's voice into health care decision-making with self-reported generic and disease-specific health outcomes surveys used worldwide to measure health status with scientific validity in clinical practice, disease management, population monitoring, clinical trials, and direct-to-consumer marketing. Founded in 1997 by John E. Ware, Jr., PhD, principal developer of the SF-36®, SF-12®, and

SF-8™ Health Surveys, QualityMetric's scientific expertise has dramatically evolved the value and precision of health-related quality of life measurement while our technology applications, including the world's first computerized dynamic health assessments (DYNHA®), have broadened the options for administration.

Contact:

Dawn Giles

Sr. Director of Marketing and Business Development

QualityMetric Incorporated

dgiles@qualitymetric.com

401-334-8800 ext.260