

## QualityMetric Introduces Patient-Driven Asthma Surveys

*Short, smart, and easy-to-administer asthma surveys capture vital information on disease control and impact for providers, payors, and patients.*

**Denver, CO. – March 7, 2003** – QualityMetric Incorporated, the world's foremost provider of patient-based general and disease-specific health surveys, today announced the availability of two asthma surveys, the Asthma Impact Survey-6™ (AIS-6) and the Asthma Control Test™ (ACT), expected to improve the measurement and treatment of this chronic disease nationally and globally. The announcement came at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) in Denver, Colorado, and will be of particular interest to disease management companies, health plans, health care providers, pharmaceutical companies, and employers who all have a considerable stake in the treatment and control of asthma.

"With approximately one of every six Americans experiencing the effects of asthma physically, mentally, and socially, patient-based surveys offer tremendous insight into the impact of this disease and its treatment," commented John E. Ware, Jr., PhD, chief executive officer, QualityMetric Incorporated. "QualityMetric has developed short, yet comprehensive, asthma surveys that can be used to predict risk in populations, inform treatment decisions, and provide insight on the functioning and well-being of a major segment of the population that suffers from this chronic and costly disease," Ware continued.

Specifically, QualityMetric will now license the Asthma Control Test or ACT, a multi-dimensional, 5- item survey that is highly predictive of asthma control. As focus has shifted from managing acute asthma attacks to achieving asthma control, the need for a measure that can reliably identify patients whose asthma is not in control has become apparent. A validated self-report measure of asthma control that is simple to administer (paper and pencil, with an online version to be introduced shortly) and supplements lung functioning tests will be vital to health care providers, payors and patients. A scientific poster on the development of ACT, to be exhibited at AAAAI's Annual Meeting in Denver, can be viewed at [www.qualitymetric.com](http://www.qualitymetric.com). Information on obtaining a license for the use of ACT, in English or US Spanish, is available by clicking [here](#). A User's Guide will accompany the purchase of a license to assist users in the correct collection and scoring of data.

The short-form Asthma Impact Survey, or AIS-6 is also now available for licensed use. AIS-6 captures the impact of asthma and its symptoms on everyday functioning and well-being and can be applied in clinical practice, by consumers, and in disease management and population monitoring efforts. This survey has been designed to maximize measurement precision and minimize burden, and can be administered in paper and pencil (an online version will be introduced shortly). A User's Guide will also be provided to all licensed users of the AIS-6. QualityMetric's release of the ACT and AIS-6 surveys for licensed use evolved from the Asthma Outcomes Monitoring System™ (AOMS) developed jointly by QualityMetric and the AAAAI over three years ago. "AOMS is a valuable clinical outcomes research tool that provides an in-depth assessment of asthma and its impact within the context of general health measures," added Martha Bayliss, MSc, Senior Scientist and Co-Director, Assessment Products and Services, QualityMetric Incorporated. "The in-depth nature of this survey allows for comparisons between the health of asthma patients and the general population," concluded Bayliss. AOMS is useful in clinical trials and by health care providers seeking to improve quality of care. Also available by license, the AOMS is the subject of presentation at the AAAAI Annual Meeting relating to its widespread use in clinical practice.

### 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.

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