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Response Letter to Herbert L. Muncie, Jr

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To the Editors

We thank Dr. Muncie for identifying the need for clarification of the quality measure: “Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture.” This measure is endorsed by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and the National Quality Forum (NQF). While the manuscript stated that the measure assesses “receipt of appropriate bone density testing *and* pharmacotherapy within 6 months of a fragility fracture for women aged 67 and older” we agree that this phrasing is not consistent with the official measure wording. An “or” should replace the “and” in the sentence describing the quality measure. The phrase “and” was not meant to suggest that both were recommended but that receipt of bone density testing and pharmacotherapy post-fracture were each assessed in this quality metric.

Importantly, the primary outcome for this study was the receipt of bone density testing *or* prescription pharmacotherapy within the six months post-fracture which is consistent with

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All of the listed authors participated in the study concept and design, data analysis, interpretation of data, and preparation of the manuscript.

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Conflict of Interest: The editor in chief has reviewed the conflict of interest checklist provided by the authors and has determined that the authors have no financial or any other kind of personal conflicts with this paper. Stephen Liu has received training grant funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, the University of Colorado and the Hartford Foundation for projects not related to this study or paper.

Stephen Liu is a consultant for the Oak Group which produces the Managed Care Appropriateness Program (MCAP) Clinical Review Criteria. This consultant work was not related to the design, methods, analysis or preparation of this paper.

the NCQA/NQF quality metric. Therefore this clarification of quality measure wording does not change the care we measured, our findings or the conclusion we draw in this study.

We appreciate the importance of providing cost-sensitive care and avoiding unnecessary care, however our study shows that an overwhelming majority of post-fracture patients received neither a bone density test nor a prescription for pharmacotherapy.

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