

**Technical Appendices**  
**PACE/COCOA-B**  
**FINAL REPORT**

**A PROJECT TO DEVELOP AN  
OUTCOME-BASED CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM AND  
CORE OUTCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT (COCOA-B) DATA SET  
FOR THE PROGRAM OF ALL-INCLUSIVE CARE FOR THE ELDERLY (PACE)**

**November 2005**

**CARRIED OUT UNDER CONTRACT  
BY THE CENTER FOR HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH  
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND RESEARCH  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO**

**FUNDED BY THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS)  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Contract No. 500-96-004, Task Order #2)**

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## **APPENDIX 1A**

### **TERMINOLOGY AND CONCEPTS RELATED TO OBCQI**

## **A Project to Develop an Outcome-Based Continuous Quality Improvement System and Core Outcome and Comprehensive Assessment Data Set for PACE**

### **Important Terminology and Concepts**

The following definitions are provided for purposes of clear and unambiguous communication.

**Outcome** - A participant or caregiver *change* in health, knowledge, ability, quality of life, outlook, or motivation that occurs over a period of time (referred to as the outcome interval). Thus, outcomes pertain to *changes in participant or caregiver status over time* and, by definition, do not pertain to (health) status at a point in time. Examples of outcomes might be stabilization in agitation or improvement in transferring ability. (Note: Outcomes are typically intrinsic to the participant or caregiver and do not directly include or pertain to care, the provision of care, care planning, assessment, care coordination, providers of care, or the environment in which care is provided -- all of these can influence outcomes but are not themselves outcomes.)

**Outcome Indicator** - A construct or attribute of change in health status that reflects a participant outcome but is not concerned with the quantification of the outcome. Examples of outcome indicators might be change (e.g., improvement, stabilization, or decline) in ambulation or dyspnea.

**Outcome Measure** - A precise quantification of an outcome indicator. For example, the outcome indicator of change in dyspnea gives rise to an outcome measure when a health status scale for dyspnea is used at baseline and follow-up time points. An outcome measure might be the number of units the participant changed between the baseline time and follow-up point according to this numeric scale for the severity of dyspnea.

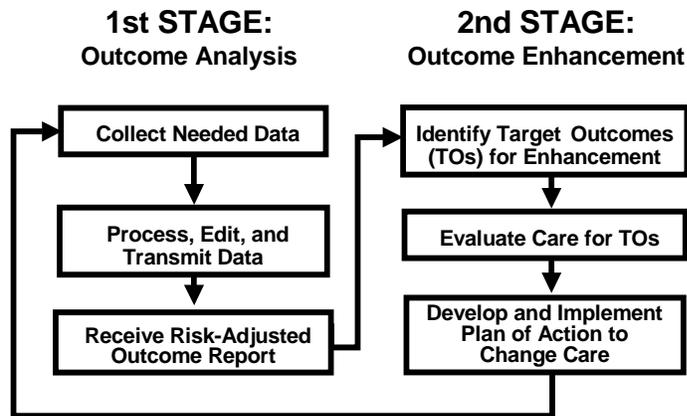
**Risk Factor** - A participant/caregiver condition or circumstance that (positively or negatively) influences the likelihood of a participant/caregiver attaining a particular outcome. These conditions or circumstances do NOT include the provision of care before or during the outcome interval.

**Outcome-Based Continuous Quality Improvement (OBCQI)** - A methodology for evaluating and improving or reinforcing the quality of care provided to PACE participants across the United States. The OBCQI methodology will be based on a system of precise outcome measures developed specifically for monitoring important outcomes of care provided to PACE participants and will include the distribution of annual (or more frequent) outcome reports and a two-stage OBCQI program (see Figure 1).

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**FIGURE 1: The OBCQI Framework: A Two-Stage Continuous Quality Improvement System.**

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**Outcome Analysis** - The first stage of OBCQI. This stage consists of data collection, data analysis and outcome reporting.

**Outcome Enhancement** - The second stage of OBCQI. This stage consists of selecting target outcome(s); determining key care behaviors that influence the target outcome(s); and developing, implementing, and monitoring a plan(s) of action to remedy substandard care practices or to reinforce exemplary care practices.

**Process-of-Care Investigation** - The process of evaluating care for target outcomes. This investigation involves the examination and analysis of care processes that produce a target outcome in order to determine changes in care behaviors that might enhance attainment of the target outcome -- or care behaviors that should be reinforced to continue attaining the target outcome.

**Plan of Action** - A document resulting from a process to develop and implement, for a specific target outcome, a remedy to care delivery weaknesses or a means to reinforce excellent care practices. More concretely, a plan of action is a document specifying, for a given target outcome, the care behaviors to be changed (or reinforced), how they will be changed, who is responsible for the changes, when the changes will occur, and how the changes will be monitored.