The PQMD Aligned Metrics Initiative (AMI)

Identifying a core set of metrics for health product donations

PQMD’s Aligned Metrics Initiative (AMI) seeks partners to support the development of an agreed upon set of impact metrics for healthcare product donations.

Donated products are an important component of global health work, as charitable products reach people in need through five distinct channels, nested within larger health programming: produce to give, excess donation, mission team support, disaster response and individual treatment programs for rare diseases and patient safety nets. These products contribute to the success of these programs to improve population health, strengthen health systems, and increase equitable access to health.

The Partnership for Quality Medical Donations (PQMD) is an alliance of leading global health corporations and nonprofit organizations engaged in providing quality medical donations to communities in need through a wide range of strategies to improve global health outcomes. Measurement and evaluation (M&E) of these efforts is essential to improving quality and amplifying the effectiveness of product donations. The AMI initiative leverages deep practical experiences of PQMD members and our extended network from leading NGO, Corporate, Multilateral and Donor organizations.

There is growing consensus within the PQMD network that a core set of aligned and relevant metrics for health product donations will allow for progress in best practices and comparability across distinct product donation channels.

The Aligned Metrics Initiative must focus on relevancy, feasibility and meaningfulness of these indicators. PQMD’s goal is to be accountable to a diverse group of stakeholders who need to utilize this information. Therefore AMI’s working group will be composed of people with critical perspectives to capturing and utilizing the data. This will also ensure the practical utility of the core set of metrics – our vision is that they are capable of harmonization across programs, comparability across partners/peer groups, and ability to connect into global health frameworks (such as the Sustainable Development Goals, ESG reporting and PQMD’s own Impact Pyramid).

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True to PQMD’s core values, this collaborative initiative will nurture opportunities to learn equitably from industry experts, highlight trends and support emerging best practices with practical tools.

This project will provide a clear road map for making the metrics operational within an organization and across the field. Over the years PQMD has progressively prioritized advancing practical and effective M&E for product donations. Measuring For Success (MFS) is PQMD’s signature initiative which works to strengthen and standardize approaches, tools, and metrics for the product donations field. The MFS Toolkit is a one-stop shop for resources, case studies, and tools. Building on these continuous efforts and in alignment with the changing landscape of recent global efforts to advance and report on social impact, PQMD is launching the Aligned Metrics Initiative. This initiative will bring together product donations, M&E, and desired change in global health to develop and operationalize shared metrics for the field.

Thus, AMI has three major objectives:
1. Provide a key list of accepted impact metrics for different types of product donations
2. Deliver practical guidance + tools on employing the indicators
3. Support a community of practice in adopting, learning, and sharing

Under the guidance of a newly formed AMI Steering Committee, with input from the Working Group and PQMD Staff, a hired M&E consultant will drive this effort. Guiding expertise will be incorporated through PQMD member consultations as well as contributions of existing feedback reports and data systems. Throughout this project, PQMD is committed to advancing thinking beyond measuring activities to measuring the ultimate desired changes – the outcomes and impacts that advance global health goals.

Our work will involve four major channels of work over 9 months:
- Project Management (ongoing)
- Metrics Design (months 2-8)
- Guidance Design (months 2, 7-9)
- Learning & Sharing (ongoing)
**Workflow Timeline:**

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<td><strong>Project Management.</strong> Working group advisory &amp; review sessions; secure funding; hire consultant; formalize and implement strategy; regular reporting</td>
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<td><strong>Metrics.</strong> Analyze existing data &amp; perspectives; vet metrics with a broader group (e.g., external expertise, on-the-ground practitioners, etc.); generate broad list of impact metrics; prioritize and finalize list</td>
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<td><strong>Tool Design.</strong> Construct guidance notes and tools/supporting documents needed to operationalize; develop online interactive platform; drive awareness &amp; communications</td>
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<td><strong>Learning.</strong> Create and maintain feedback loops with curated community of practice; check in with usage practices and experiences.</td>
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