Environmental Scan Support Tool | The Environmental Scan Support Tool (ESST) makes information gathering for existing measures more efficient and effective by reducing the effort and time required to conduct an environmental scan.

Use Case: ESST for Measure Maintenance

Intended Audience

This handout is intended for measure developers and others involved in the measure maintenance process.

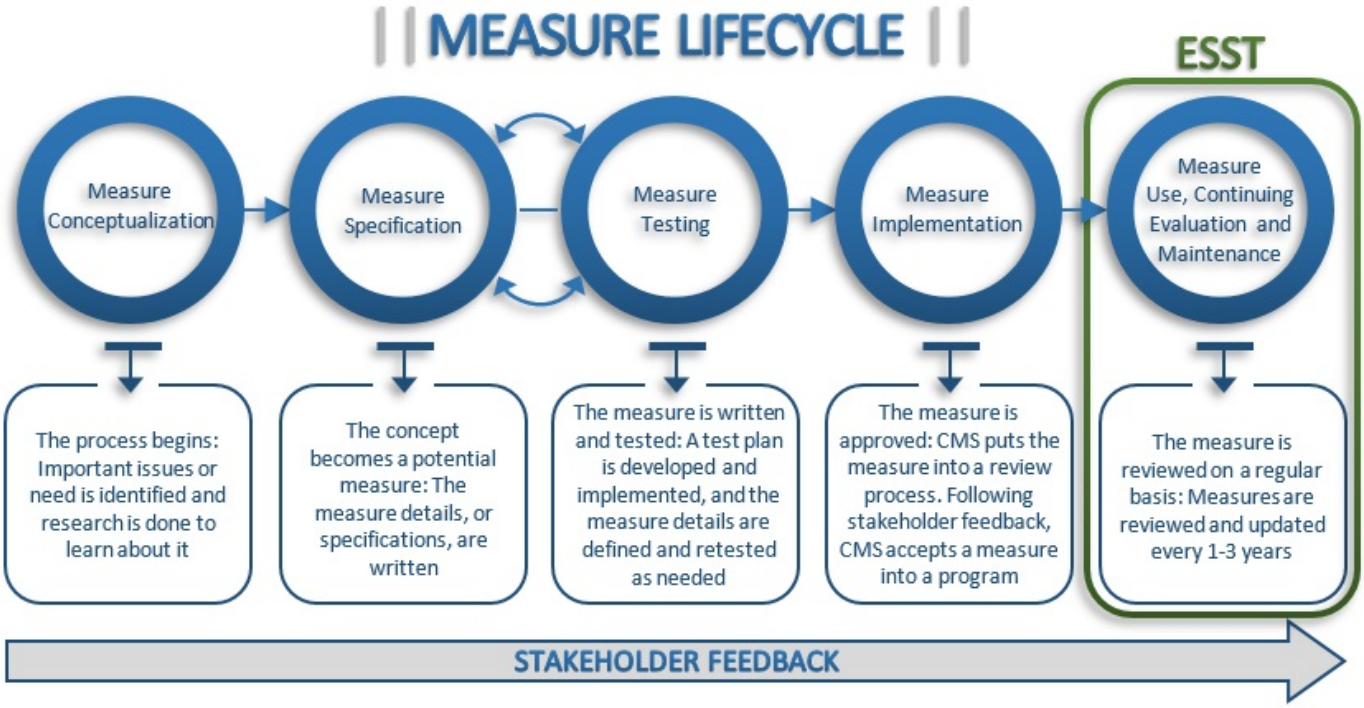
What is ESST?

Environmental Scan Support Tool (ESST) is an information gathering tool that uses artificial intelligence to find and identify the most relevant abstracts and articles that represent measure concepts: measure focus, target population and evidence. ESST is a convenient, current and accessible index of the most relevant literature in PubMed, PubMed Central and CINAHL for quality measures found in the CMS Measures Inventory. ESST is freely available as part of the CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT) at https://cmit.cms.gov.

How is ESST used?

ESST helps users:

- Identify current and relevant biomedical literature to ensure up-to date evidentiary support
- Compare current literature with literature cited in a preceding environmental scan or supplement the results of a manually completed scan
- Understand the benefits of completing a comprehensive scan during measure maintenance



ESST for Measure Maintenance

Identify Current Evidence

ESST is **updated monthly** with the most recent biomedical literature relevant to quality measures in CMIT. For measure maintenance, ESST is an efficient way to identify literature published since a measure was developed or updated, ensuring **up-to-date evidentiary support** for the measure.

Compare and Supplement

ESST provides a current environmental scan that a user can compare with the preceding scan (evidence cited in the Measure Information Form) to **identify differences and new insights** that impact unintended consequences and other factors that are important for evaluating and updating measures.

ESST can also be used to supplement a manually conducted environmental scan to ensure a scan is **complete and precise.**

Understand Benefits of a Comprehensive Scan

Measure developers and others involved in the maintenance process may find the "expertise" of the ESST informative for **understanding the benefits** of completing a comprehensive environmental scan during measure maintenance. ESST scans millions of documents using artificial intelligence to find and prioritize the most relevant literature related to quality measures, enabling the evaluation of new information and evidence of unforeseen adverse consequences related to the measure during the review process.

Questions? Email us at
MMSsupport@battelle.org