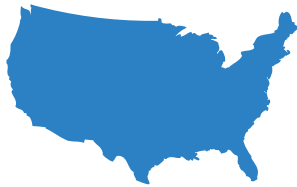# A Framework for Using REAL Data

REAL data is race, ethnicity and language data.

Racial and ethnic minorities are projected to account for a majority of the U.S. population by 2043.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012.

Hospitals are working to ensure every patient receives high-quality care.

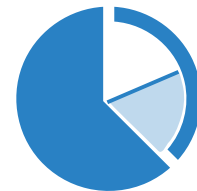**A focus on value and quality necessitate that hospitals improve patient outcomes.**

Hospitals that focus on the unique needs of diverse populations will be well positioned for future success.

95%

Most hospitals collect REAL data, but a smaller percentage use the data in decision making.

Source: HRET, 2014.

Using REAL data can help ensure that care provided is tailored to the individual needs of patients.

The use of REAL data can help identify where quality efforts are effective and where there are opportunities for improvement.

5 Step Framework for Using REAL Data

Each hospital or care system can approach stratifying data differently, but the general framework is similar.

1. Assemble a working group
2. Validate the REAL data
3. Identify the highest priority metrics
4. Determine if you can analyze the selected metrics
5. Analyze the data

Source: HRET, 2014.

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