



**Terms of Office**            Chair: 4 years (non-renewable)  
                                     Members: 3 years (renewable once)

## **Committee Makeup**

*The voting members of the Science and Quality Council (S&Q Council) shall consist of the chair, approximately 6 members and the chairs of the designated component committees. The Public Policy Chair and Research Chair shall serve as an ex-officio members. Component committees include but are not limited to the Practice Guidelines Committee, Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Committee and Data Committee.*

In addition, every other year an S&Q Fellow is selected to serve a 2-year non-voting term on the S&Q Council and its subcommittees (PGC, QIPS, and Data).

## **Vision/Mission/Purpose**

*The Science and Quality Council shall oversee the science, quality and data components of the Association's mission as requested by the Board of Directors. This includes but is not limited to the development, dissemination, and implementation of guidelines, physician performance measures, patient safety initiatives, registries, and data projects.*

## **Reporting**

The Science & Quality Council reports to the AUA Board of Directors. The S&Q Chair reports to the board at the fall board meeting and may present action items at the other board meetings as needed.

## **Component Committees/Work Groups/Panels**

Component committees include, but are not limited to: Practice Guidelines Committee (PGC), Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QIPS) Committee, Data Committee and Measure Evaluation Panel (MEP).

## **Committee Meetings**

The Science and Quality Council shall have in-person or video teleconference meetings in the Spring, prior to the AUA Annual Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April and in the Fall, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in November. Contact with committee members via phone calls, video teleconferences and email correspondence shall occur throughout the year on an as needed basis.

## **Time Commitment**

*Chair:*        10 hours per week

*Member:*    Average of 8 hours per month



## Responsibilities

**Chair** The S&Q Chair is responsible for helping to shape and execute the broad science, quality, and data agenda of the AUA. This includes, but is not limited to:

- creation, dissemination and implementation of guidelines and other documents
- maintenance of the AUA Quality (AQUA) Registry
- development and implementation of the biennial Quality Improvement Summit
- execution and maintenance of the Quality Improvement Program
- development and implementation of physician performance measures
- advancement of patient safety initiatives
- monitoring of federal, state, and local quality healthcare programs and the education of AUA members about these initiatives
- formation and execution of data projects

**Members:** The Council members will monitor and provide guidance to S&Q programs to ensure effective and efficient implementation of projects. The Council will review new programs, Guidelines and Clinical Consensus Statements topics, etc. and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Council will be part of peer review and approval process for Guidelines and Clinical Consensus Statements and other documents as required. The Council will serve as an oversight group for vetting members for various panels and workgroups and coordinating conflicts of interest review with the Judicial & Ethics Committee and will provide guidance to the respective S&Q Committees. The Council shall coordinate with other AUA Councils on Science and Quality issues impacting health policy (e.g., AMA resolutions, Legislative Priorities, reimbursement and regulation, etc.) The Council will act as a steering committee for the Science & Quality (S&Q) Summit.

## Compliance

Positions on Councils, Committees, Editorial Boards and Practice Guidelines Panels are open to AUA members in good standing. All members must agree to abide by *AUA's Committee Policies & Procedures* (see *AUA Participation Terms & Conditions* documents located under My Committees Section of the [myAUA](#) webpage). These documents include the requirement to abide by [AUA's Civility Policy](#) and annually complete a Conflicts of Interest (COI) Disclosure Form in accordance with [AUA's COI Disclosure Policy](#). The AUA reserves the right to suspend or remove a member from participation in any AUA activity while the individual is under investigation for a policy violation.

## Criteria for Selecting New Members

Having a strong interest in Science & Quality work and initiatives. Prior experience on one or more AUA Committees that report to the council (PGC, QIPS, Data), is ideal, but not a deterrent of acceptance for interested applicants.

## Criteria for Selecting Next Chair

Openings for Science & Quality Chair are announced every four years at the webpage [AUAnet.org/SQChair](#). A job description highlighting the qualifications is posted on that site. The next search will begin winter of 2025. The Science & Quality Chair is selected by a Board Search Committee.



## Recent Accomplishments – 2025

In 2025 the Science & Quality Council continued to provide strategic oversight to shape and execute the science, data, and quality components of AUA’s mission to promote the highest standards of urological clinical care in the following three areas:

### Guidelines

- New Guidelines covering *Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause*, *Chronic Pelvic Pain in Men*, *Surgical Management of Kidney Stones*, and *Vasectomy* were released in 2025 in addition to updates to *Recurrent UTI*, *Microhematuria*, and *Cryptorchidism*. Guidelines were featured in 11 *Journal of Urology*® publications for 2025. The [Guidelines page](#) on the AUA website saw over 1.3 million views. All Guidelines content is now available in a new [Guidelines-at-a-Glance mobile app](#).

### AQUA, Data & Statistical Services

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the AQUA Registry as a Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR) for the tenth year in a row for MIPS reporting. Over 1,400 providers are expected to complete MIPS reporting through the AQUA Registry. As of August 2025, over 2,000 urologic care providers from 181 practices actively participated in the AQUA Registry. The total number of patients in the AQUA Registry passed 11M, and we completed a successful transition to Verana Health as the new data ingestion partner for the AQUA Registry.
- Over 4,100 respondents completed the 2025 AUA Annual Census and two Census reports, [State of Urology Workforce and Practice in the United States 2024](#) and [Practicing Urologists in the United States by AUA Section](#), were released. Three *AUANews Inside Tract* podcasts based on AUA Census trends were released including [The Evolving Urology Workforce](#), [Prior Authorization and the Cost of Delay](#), and [Why Urologists are Choosing Fellowships](#).
- The AUA Data Research Program (DRP) awarded six recipients in 2025, including three based on Census data and three based on AQUA Registry data. For the 2026 DRP award cycle, 40 letters of intent were received with 16 invited to submit a full application and three AQUA projects funded.
- Fourteen abstracts were accepted and presented at AUA2025 and several peer-reviewed articles were published based on AQUA or Census data.

### Quality & Measurement

- QIPS members and department staff formally introduced the AUA’s [National Quality Agenda and Strategies for Urologic Practice](#) to the membership through an [AUANews article](#) and an *Inside Tract* [podcast episode](#) featuring AUA’s Secretary and Science & Quality Council Chair.
- A subset of QIPS members and department staff developed the [Joy in Work: Burnout as a Threat to Quality in Urologic Care](#) Quality Improvement Issue Brief (QIIB) and released an accompanying *Inside Tract* [podcast episode](#).
- A workgroup consisting of current and former QIPS Committee members published the [Quality Improvement \(QI\) Project Guide](#) and released four accompanying *Inside Tract* [podcast episodes](#).
- Department staff, in collaboration with committee leadership, developed a [meeting summary](#), [toolkit](#), and a [podcast episode](#) based on the 2024 QI Summit (Advancing Diagnostic Excellence in Prostate Cancer— Improving Prostate MR Image Quality).