

Quality Program Measure Trends Analysis

Quarterly Update Based on Hospital Compare's 2Q2019 Data Release

-Version 1-

Analysis Description

The Quality Program Measure Trends Analysis (2nd quarter 2019 update) is designed to provide hospitals with a comparative review over time of the quality data collected by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and published on the Hospital Compare Web site at <https://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/>.

The specific measures analyzed represent the measures included in a Medicare Quality Programs: Value Based Purchasing (VBP), Readmissions Reduction Program (RRP), and Hospital Acquired Conditions (HAC) reduction program as well as the Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CCJR) program. The analysis also includes Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) and overall star ratings. Measures are divided into categories: Star Ratings, Safety, Person and Community Engagement (VBP/CCJR), Outcomes, Readmissions, and Efficiency. The analysis includes measures that CMS has adopted for use in at least one of the four programs for the current program year and forward. Certain measures do not apply to all program years. Text is provided under each data table specifying the applicable program years for each measure. Measures collected by CMS and included in the Hospital Compare database that have not been adopted for use in one of the programs are not evaluated in this analysis, with the exception of star ratings. Measures that have been finalized for use in one of the four programs but are lacking complete data on Hospital Compare are not evaluated in this analysis.

Hospital performance levels are shown in both graphical and tabular form with relevant comparisons to national standards. These standards are intended to give a hospital an indication of how it would perform in the quality programs. Rankings within the nation and the state are also provided to show how hospital performance is changing relative to performance across the country (a hospital with performance levels that are not improving at a rate comparable to or better than the nation may have performance levels that are improving but will have a national ranking that is falling). Rankings are not provided for hospitals that do not meet the minimum case count requirement for at least one quality payment program. Hospital counts, case count minimums, and reporting practices by CMS may change from quarter to quarter.

The graphs in this analysis are set to display hospital performance relative to national performance standards. As a result, the axis for each chart varies.

Importantly, this analysis evaluates performance for all prospective payment system and critical access hospitals included in CMS' Hospital Compare database, not just those included in the programs. Therefore, in some cases, there may be multiple measures that are unavailable for a hospital for all quarters.

In order to focus on measures relevant to the quality programs going forward, this analysis does not include measures that CMS has removed for the current program year.

This analysis eliminates measure case counts requirements and therefore, when possible, calculates measure scores for hospitals when they are unavailable from CMS. This analysis indicates measure scores that are calculated or measures that do not meet program case count requirements with "*" next to the measure score.

Also, for measures where data is not available, "Unavailable" will appear in the analysis for the relevant quarterly release. In cases when a regularly scheduled data update was not released, "Unavailable" will also appear and national performance standards will be blank.

Sources, Time Periods, and Measures Analyzed

The following describes the sources, time periods, and measures evaluated in this analysis by measure category:

Star Ratings:

Hospital performances are from the quarterly updates to the CMS Hospital Compare quality database. Hospitals are given between 1 and 5 stars based on their performance.

For the Overall Star Rating, quality data is from 3rd quarter 2016 through 4th quarter 2018. Also shown are the number of hospitals with each star category for each quarter within the state and the nation. If a state does not have any hospitals in one or more star category, that spot will be blank.

The Overall Star Rating are provided in 2nd quarter and 4th quarter, beginning 4th quarter 2016, when available.

CMS did not update the Overall Star Rating in 2nd quarter 2019.

The 4th quarter 2017 Overall Star Rating update uses the new enhanced methodology: https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/d_ZgCzpAB5c4l0wHVsvVwx. As a result, there is a break in the trend line.

For the HCAHPS star ratings, quality data is from 3rd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019. Also shown is the number of hospitals with each star category for each quarter within the state and the nation. If a state does not have any hospitals in one or more star category, that spot will be blank.

A HCAHPS star rating breakdown is also provided showing hospital performance in each HCAHPS measure from 3rd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019.

Star ratings developed by CMS and included in the Hospital Compare database are not tied to any payment program. Thus, at this time there is no reimbursement tied to the star ratings.

Safety Measures:

For the 6 hospital-acquired infection (HAI) measures and the PC-01 measure, hospital performance levels are from the 3rd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019 updates to the CMS Hospital Compare quality database for data that is complete. National performance standards are calculated based on hospital performance when not available on Hospital Compare.

For the one patient safety indicator (PSI) composite measure, PSI-90, hospital performances are from the annual updates to the CMS Hospital Compare database from 2nd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019. The 3rd quarter 2017 Hospital Compare update to the PSI-90 is comprised of 10 composite indicators, rather than the previous 8 indicators. Due to the change in measure composition, results between the previous measure and the modified measure are slightly different and should not be compared, thus there is no trend line connecting these periods. The 2nd quarter 2018 update uses AHRQ Quality Indicators Software version 8.0 as well as diagnosis coding from ICD-10 rather than ICD-9 used in the previous period, and therefore there is no trend line connecting the two periods. National performance standards are calculated based on hospital performance when not available on Hospital Compare.

For all of the HAI measures, CMS used the same time period of data for the 3rd and 4th quarters 2016 updates. However, the 2015 rebaseline model was used instead of the 2014, thus there is no trend line connecting the data points.

The measure collection dates are listed directly in the analysis.

The 8 Safety measures analyzed include:

- Elective Delivery Prior to 39 Completed Weeks Gestation (PC-01)
- Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection (ICU + Select Wards) (HAI-1)
- Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection (ICU + Select Wards) (HAI-2)
- Surgical Site Infection – Colon (HAI-3)
- Surgical Site Infection – Abdominal Hysterectomy (HAI-4)
- Methicillin Resistant Staph Infection (MRSA) (HAI-5)
- Clostridium Difficile (C.Diff) (HAI-6)
- 2Q2015: Patient Safety Indicator Composite for Selected 8 Indicators (PSI-90); Beginning 3Q2017: Patient Safety and Adverse Events (Composite of 10).

The VBP Program takes a weighted average of the final scores for the two SSI measures (abdominal hysterectomy and colon surgical site infection) when determining the Safety domain score. This analysis shows the measures independently to provide hospitals with performance levels and rankings for each individual measure.

Person and Community Engagement/HCAHPS Measures (VBP):

Hospital performances are from the updates to the CMS Hospital Compare quality database from 3rd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019. National performance standards are calculated based on hospital performance when not available on Hospital Compare. The measure collection dates related to these database updates are listed directly in the analysis.

The 9 Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey VBP measures analyzed include:

- Communication with Nurses
- Communication with Doctors
- Responsiveness of Hospital Staff
- Communication about Medicines
- Discharge Information
- 3-Item Care Transitions Measure (CTM-3)
- Patients' Rooms and Bathrooms Were Always Kept Clean
- Area Around Patients' Rooms was Always Kept Quiet at Night
- Overall Rating of Hospital.

The VBP Program technically evaluates 9 measures—the “clean and quiet” measures are combined for the purposes of VBP. This analysis provides hospitals with performance levels and rankings for each individual measure.

Person and Community Engagement/HCAHPS Measures (CCJR):

The HCAHPS measures in the CCJR program differ from those in the VBP program in that the CCJR program uses the linear mean score for each measure and also includes a ‘Patient Would Recommend Hospital’ measure. Hospital performances are from the quarterly updates to the CMS Hospital Compare quality database from 3rd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019. National performance standards are calculated based on hospital performance when not available on Hospital Compare. The measure collection dates related to these database updates are listed directly on the analysis.

Outcomes of Care Measures:

For the five mortality and one complication rate measures, hospital performances are from the annual updates to the CMS Hospital Compare quality database from 2nd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019 where complete data are available. National performance standards are calculated based on hospital performance when not available on Hospital Compare.

The measure collection dates are listed directly in the analysis.

The 6 Patient Outcomes measures analyzed include:

- AMI 30-Day Mortality Rate (MORT-30-AMI)
- HF 30-Day Mortality Rate (MORT-30-HF)
- PN 30-Day Mortality Rate (MORT-30-PN)
- COPD 30-Day Mortality Rate (MORT-30-COPD)
- CABG 30-Day Mortality Rate (MORT-30-CABG)
- Risk Standardized Complication Rate (RSCR) Following Elective Primary Total Hip Arthroplasty (THA) and Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA) (COMP-HIP-KNEE).

In the VBP program, the five mortality rates are converted to survival rates. The mortality rates in this analysis are not converted.

Readmission Measures:

For the six readmission measures, hospital performances are from the annual updates to the CMS Hospital Compare quality database from 2nd quarter 2016 through 2nd quarter 2019 where complete data are available. National performance standards are calculated based on hospital performance when not available on Hospital Compare.

The measure collection dates are listed directly in the analysis.

The 6 Readmissions measures analyzed include:

- AMI 30-Day Readmission Rate (READM-30-AMI)
- HF 30-Day Readmission Rate (READM-30-HF)
- PN 30-Day Readmission Rate (READM-30-PN)
- COPD 30-Day Readmission Rate (READM-30-COPD)
- CABG 30-Day Readmission Rate (READM-30-CABG)
- Risk Standardized Complication Rate (RSCR) Following Elective Primary Total Hip Arthroplasty (THA) and Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA) 30-Day Readmission Rate (READM-30-HIP-KNEE).

Efficiency Measures:

Hospital performance for the Medicare hospital Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary measure is from the 3rd quarter 2015 to the 4th quarter 2018 updates to Hospital Compare. National performance standards are calculated based on hospital performance when not available on Hospital Compare. The measure collection dates are listed directly on the analysis.

The Efficiency measure analyzed is:

- Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary (MSPB-1).

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