

Perforated Appendix Rate

Pediatric Quality Indicators #17

Technical Specifications

Area-Level Indicator

AHRQ Quality Indicators, Version 4.3, August 2011

Version 4.3a is a maintenance release of Version 4.3. The differences between the two versions are:

- Version 4.3a includes Version 29 of the Limited License edition of the 3M™ APR-DRG Grouper. This grouper corrects an issue found in Version 28 of the Limited License edition of the 3M™ APR-DRG Grouper. The grouper is only used with the Inpatient Quality Indicator (IQI) mortality measures. Version 4.3 includes Version 28 of the Limited License edition of the 3M™ APR-DRG Grouper, which was incorrectly assigning a Risk of Mortality (ROM) subclass for cases dated on or after 10/1/10.
- Version 4.3a allows users to calculate area-level indicators for years 2010 and 2011, correcting an issue previously identified in Version 4.3.

All other aspects of the software, including measure specifications, remain the same. Thus this document (related to Version 4.3) remains unchanged.

Numerator

Discharges ages 1 to 17 years with ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for perforations or abscesses of appendix in any field.

ICD-9-CM Perforated or abscesses of appendix diagnosis codes (outcome of interest):

5400 AC APPEND W PERITONITIS 5401 ABSCESS OF APPENDIX

Exclude cases:

- transfer from other institution
- MDC 14 (pregnancy, childbirth, and puerperium)
- with missing gender (SEX=missing), age (AGE=missing), quarter (DQTR=missing), year (YEAR=missing) or principal diagnosis (DX1=missing), county (PSTCO=missing)

See *Pediatric Quality Indicators Appendices*:

- Appendix J – Admission Codes for Transfers

Denominator

Discharges with diagnosis code for appendicitis in any field in the numerator are assigned to the denominator based on the Metro Area¹ or county of their patient residence, not the Metro Area or county of the hospital where the discharge occurred.

¹ The term “metropolitan area” (MA) was adopted by the U.S. Census in 1990 and referred collectively to metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), consolidated metropolitan statistical areas (CMSAs), and primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSAs). In addition, “area” could refer to either 1) FIPS county, 2) modified FIPS

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ICD-9-CM Appendicitis diagnosis codes (population at risk):

5400	AC APPEND W PERITONITIS
5401	ABSCESS OF APPENDIX
5409	ACUTE APPENDICITIS NOS
541	APPENDICITIS NOS

county, 3) 1999 OMB Metropolitan Statistical Area, or 3) 2003 OMB Metropolitan Statistical Area. Micropolitan Statistical Areas are not used in the QI software.