Postoperative Wound Dehiscence Rate

Patient Safety Indicators #24
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[TM] APR-DRG Grouper. This grouper corrects an issue found in Version 28 of the Limited License edition of the 3M[TM] 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[TM] 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 age 18 and older with ICD-9-CM code for reclosure of postoperative disruption of abdominal wall procedure.

ICD-9-CM Reclosure procedure code:
5461   RECLOSURE OF POSTOPERATIVE
          DISRUPTION OF ABDOMINAL WALL

Exclude cases:

- with any diagnosis or procedure code for immunocompromised state
- 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 *Patient Safety Indicators Appendices*:

- Appendix I – Immunocompromised State Diagnosis and Procedure Codes

Denominator

Discharges in the numerator are assigned to the denominator based on the Metro Area[1] or county of the patient residence, not the Metro Area or county of the hospital where the discharge occurred.

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