

# Postoperative Wound Dehiscence Rate

## Patient Safety Indicators #24

### Technical Specifications

#### Area-Level Indicator

AHRQ Quality Indicators, Version 4.4, March 2012

### 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 RECLOSE POST OP DISRUPT

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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), principal diagnosis (DX1=missing), or 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<sup>1</sup> or county of the patient residence, not the Metro Area or county of the hospital where the discharge occurred.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.