

Perforated Appendix Rate

Pediatric Quality Indicators #17

Technical Specifications

Area-Level Indicator

AHRQ Quality Indicators, Version 4.3, August 2011

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
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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.

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

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.