

# Postoperative Wound Dehiscence Rate Technical Specifications

## Patient Safety Indicators #24 (PSI #24) AHRQ Quality Indicators™, Version 4.5, May 2013 Area-Level Indicator Type of Score: Rate

### Description

Postoperative reclosures of the abdominal wall per 100,000 population, ages 18 years and older. Excludes cases with an immunocompromised state and obstetric cases.

*[NOTE: The software provides the rate per population. However, common practice reports the measure as per 100,000 population. The user must multiply the rate obtained from the software by 100,000 to report events per 100,000 population.]*

### Numerator

Discharges, for patients ages 18 years and older, with any-listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for reclosure of postoperative disruption of the abdominal wall.

#### ICD-9-CM Reclosure of postoperative disruption of the abdominal wall procedure codes:

5461      RECLOSE POST OP DISRUPT

Exclude cases:

- with any-listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes or any-listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes 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

Population ages 18 years and older in metropolitan area<sup>†</sup> or county. Discharges in the

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<sup>†</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 4) 2003 OMB Metropolitan Statistical Area. Micropolitan Statistical Areas are not used in the QI software.

numerator are assigned to the denominator based on the metropolitan area or county of the patient residence, not the metropolitan area or county of the hospital where the discharge occurred.