



AHRQ Quality Indicators™

Patient Safety Indicators

Help assess quality and safety of care for adults in the hospital

Patient Safety Indicators—

- Can be used to help hospitals and health care organizations assess, monitor, track, and improve the safety of inpatient care.
- Can be used for comparative public reporting, trending, and pay-for-performance initiatives.
- Can identify potentially avoidable complications that result from a patient's exposure to the health care system.
- Include hospital-level indicators to detect potential safety problems that occur during a patient's hospital stay.
- Include area-level indicators for potentially preventable adverse events that occur during a hospital stay to help assess total incidence within a region.
- Are publicly available at no charge to the user.
- Include risk adjustment where appropriate.
- Can be downloaded at www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/Downloads/Modules/PSI/V50/TechSpecs/PSI_50_updates_techspecs.zip.

The AHRQ Patient Safety Indicators were developed under a contract with the University of California, San Francisco, Stanford University Evidence-based Practice Center, and the University of California,

Davis. The Patient Safety Indicators were first released in 2003 and have been updated as needed over time.

Other AHRQ Quality Indicators

AHRQ has other sets of QIs:

- Prevention Quality Indicators—Indicators representing hospital admission rates for common ambulatory care-sensitive conditions. Hospitalization for these types of conditions can often be avoided with appropriate use of high-quality, community-based primary care services.
- Inpatient Quality Indicators—Hospital- and area-level indicators relating to utilization, mortality, and volume. Hospital-level indicators include in-hospital procedures for which outcomes can vary by hospital; area-level indicators include procedures for which inpatient utilization rates have been shown to vary by metropolitan statistical area.
- Pediatric Quality Indicators—Hospital- and area-level indicators that focus on potentially preventable complications and errors in pediatric patients treated in hospitals. Includes a subset of Neonatal Quality Indicators.

See www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov for announcements of updates to AHRQ QI software.



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Endorsement

A number of measures have been endorsed by the National Quality Forum (NQF), which reviews the endorsements periodically. Find NQF-endorsed AHRQ measures at www.qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov.

Mailing List

Sign up for free notifications about new and updated AHRQ QIs and associated software tools by registering at www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov.

User Tools and Support

- Free software to compute AHRQ QI rates, available for SAS® and Windows®
- A detailed users' guide and technical specifications for the Patient Safety Indicators
- Parameter estimates, benchmark data tables, and methodology to create composite measures
- Guidance for designing a report using the Patient Safety Indicators
- Answers to frequently asked questions
- Access to QI Technical Support by email at QIsupport@ahrq.hhs.gov or by phone at 301-427-1949

Patient Safety Indicators

Provider-Level Indicators

- PSI 02 - Death rate in low-mortality diagnosis related groups (DRGs)
- PSI 03 - Pressure ulcer rate
- PSI 04 - Death rate among surgical inpatients with serious treatable conditions
- PSI 05 - Retained surgical item or unretrieved device fragment count
- PSI 06 - Iatrogenic pneumothorax rate
- PSI 07 - Central venous catheter-related blood stream infection rate
- PSI 08 - Postoperative hip fracture rate
- PSI 09 - Perioperative hemorrhage or hematoma rate
- PSI 10 - Postoperative physiologic and metabolic derangement rate
- PSI 11 - Postoperative respiratory failure rate
- PSI 12 - Perioperative pulmonary embolism or deep vein thrombosis rate
- PSI 13 - Postoperative sepsis rate
- PSI 14 - Postoperative wound dehiscence rate

- PSI 15 - Accidental puncture or laceration rate
- PSI 16 - Transfusion reaction count
- PSI 17 - Birth trauma rate – injury to neonate
- PSI 18 - Obstetric trauma rate – vaginal delivery with instrument
- PSI 19 - Obstetric trauma rate-vaginal delivery without instrument
- PSI 90 - Patient Safety for Selected Indicators

Area-Level Indicators

- PSI 21 - Retained surgical item or unretrieved device fragment rate
- PSI 22 - Iatrogenic pneumothorax rate
- PSI 23 - Central venous catheter-related blood stream infection rate
- PSI 24 - Postoperative wound dehiscence rate
- PSI 25 - Accidental puncture or laceration rate
- PSI 26 - Transfusion reaction rate
- PSI 27 - Postoperative hemorrhage or hematoma rate



QI Web Site: qualityindicators.ahrq.gov



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