

A Crosswalk Linking National Quality Indicators with National Organizations, Legislation, and Clinical Practice Guidelines Supporting Use of the Indicators

The following table allows one to define a quality indicator and determine whether the indicator is endorsed by the National Quality Forum (NQF), consistent with current organizational and legislative measurement requirements, and supported by authoritative clinical practice guidelines. Simply choose an indicator in the left column and read across the row to find the corresponding information. Links are provided to Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) web pages with descriptions (i.e., definitions) of indicators. A checkmark in a column corresponding to an organization (HQA, CMS, or JCAHO) or the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) reflects consistency between the indicator and organizational or legislative measurement requirements. In the far right column, links are provided to references, which also are listed at the bottom of this web page.

The current CMS/JCAHO/CMS description for each indicator can be found in the CMS/JCAHO Current Specifications Manual for National Hospital Quality Measures at <http://www.jointcommission.org/PerformanceMeasurement/PerformanceMeasurement/Current+NHQM+Manual.htm>. Scroll to the bottom of this page for the most recent version of the NHQM Specifications Manual.

Quality Indicator	NQF Endorsed?	Consistent with Current Organizational or Legislative Measurement Requirements				References
		HQA ^{a,b}	CMS ^b	JCAHO ^c	DRA	
<i>Acute Myocardial Infarction</i>						
Aspirin at arrival	Yes	√	√	√	√	1
Aspirin prescribed at discharge	Yes	√	√	√	√	1,2
ACEI or ARB for LVSD	Yes	√	√	√	√	1
Beta blocker at arrival	Yes	√	√	√	√	1
Beta blocker at discharge	Yes	√	√	√	√	1,3
Median time to fibrinolysis			√	√		
Fibrinolytic agent received within 30 minutes of hospital arrival	Yes	√	√	√	√	1
Primary PCI received within 90	Yes	√	√	√	√	1

minutes of hospital arrival						
Adult smoking cessation advice/counseling	Yes	√	√	√	√	1
LDL cholesterol assessment ^d			√	Optional test measure		1
Lipid lowering therapy at discharge ^d			√	Optional test measure		1
Inpatient mortality				√		

Heart Failure

Left ventricular function assessment	Yes	√	√	√	√	4
ACEI or ARB for LVSD	Yes	√	√	√	√	4
Discharge instructions	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Adult smoking cessation advice/counseling	Yes	√	√	√	√	4

Pneumonia

Oxygenation assessment	Yes	√	√	√	√	5
Pneumococcal vaccination	Yes	√	√	√	√	5,7
Blood culture performed within 24 hours prior or 24 hours after hospital arrival for patients who were transferred or admitted to the ICU within 24 hours of hospital arrival	Yes		√	√		5
Blood cultures performed in the ED prior to initial antibiotic	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Adult smoking cessation advice/counseling	Yes	√	√	√	√	5

Antibiotic timing (median)				√		5,6
Initial antibiotic received within 8 hours of hospital arrival				√		
Initial antibiotic received within 4 hours of hospital arrival	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Initial antibiotic received within 6 hours of hospital arrival				Test measure		
Initial antibiotic selection for CAP in immunocompetent patient	Yes	√	√		√	5
Initial antibiotic selection for CAP in immunocompetent patient – ICU patient				√		
Initial antibiotic selection for CAP in immunocompetent patient – non ICU patient				√		
Influenza vaccination	Yes	√	√	√	√	5,8

Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP)

Prophylactic antibiotic received within 1 hour prior to surgical incision	Yes	√	√	√	√	9,10
Appropriate antibiotic selection	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Prophylactic antibiotics discontinued within 24 hours	Yes	√	√	√	√	9,10

after surgery end time (48 hours after CABG and Other Cardiac Surgery)						
Cardiac surgery patients with controlled 6 a.m. postoperative blood glucose	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Surgery patients with appropriate hair removal	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Colorectal surgery patients with immediate postoperative normothermia	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Cardiac						
Surgery patients on beta blocker therapy before admission who received a beta blocker during perioperative period	Yes		√	√	√	
VTE						
Surgery patients with recommended VTE prophylaxis ordered	Yes	√	√	√	√	
Surgery patients who received appropriate VTE prophylaxis within 24 hours prior to surgery to 24 hours after surgery	Yes	√	√	√	√	
<i>Pregnancy and related conditions</i>						
Vaginal birth after cesarean section	Yes			√		11
Inpatient neonatal mortality	Yes			√		11

Third or fourth degree laceration	Yes			√		
Other						
Patient perspectives on hospital care						

ACC = American College of Cardiology; ACE = angiotensin converting-enzyme inhibitor; AHA = American Hospital Association; ARB = angiotensin receptor blocker; CABG = coronary artery bypass grafting; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CMS = Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; DRA = Deficit Reduction Act; HQA = Hospital Quality Alliance; IDSA = Infectious Diseases Society of America; LDL = low-density lipoprotein; LVSD = left ventricular systolic dysfunction; PCI = percutaneous coronary intervention

^aThe Hospital Quality Alliance is a collaboration of national public and private organizations that have spearheaded a quality improvement initiative known as Improving Care Through Information to encourage hospitals to voluntarily collect and report to the public quality performance information. The collaboration involves the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, and Association of American Medical Colleges, with the support of the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, National Association of Childrens' Hospitals and Related Organizations, American Association of Retired People, American Federation of Labor and Council of Industrial Organizations, Consumer-Purchaser Disclosure Project, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Quality Forum, and U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

^bFor information about HQA and CMS hospital quality measures, go to http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HospitalQualityInits/downloads/HospitalHQA2004_2007200512.pdf.

^cFor further information about JCAHO performance measurement initiatives and core measure sets, go to <http://www.jointcommission.org/PerformanceMeasurement/PerformanceMeasurement/>.

^dJCAHO optional test measure

References

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