

Plan All-Cause Readmissions (PCR)

CLINICAL RATIONALE

- The NCQA advises: “A ‘readmission’ occurs when a patient is discharged from the hospital and then admitted back into the hospital within a short period of time. A high rate of patient readmissions may indicate inadequate quality of care in the hospital and/or a lack of appropriate post-discharge planning and care coordination. Unplanned readmissions are associated with increased mortality and higher health care costs. They can be prevented by standardizing and improving coordination of care after discharge and increasing support for patient self-management.”¹
- The Institute for Healthcare Improvement advises: “Hospitalizations account for nearly one-third of the total \$2 trillion spent on health care in the United States. In the majority of cases, hospitalization is necessary and appropriate; however, a substantial fraction of all hospitalizations occur when patients return to the hospital soon after their previous stay. These rehospitalizations are costly, potentially harmful, and often avoidable. Evidence suggests that the rate of avoidable rehospitalization can be reduced by improving core discharge planning and transition processes out of the hospital; improving transitions and care coordination at the interfaces between care settings; and enhancing coaching, education, and support for patient self-management.”²



MEASURE AT A GLANCE



Applicable specialties

Thoracic Surgery



Measure steward

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)



Measure identifiers

HEDIS PCR*, CMS Stars*, NQF 1768*, QPP 356*



Measure description

Patient(s) 18 years or older who had an unplanned hospital readmission within 30 days of principal procedure

*HEDIS PCR: Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set – Plan All-Cause Readmissions (PCR). *CMS Stars: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) five-star quality rating system. *Also see NQF #1768 (National Quality Forum) and *QPP #356 (Quality Payment Program).

¹ The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Plan All-Cause Readmissions (PCR). <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/plan-all-cause-readmissions/>.

² Boutwell, A., F. Griffin, S. Hwu, D. Shannon. 2009. Effective Interventions to Reduce Rehospitalizations: A Compendium of 15 Promising Interventions. Cambridge, MA. Institute for Healthcare Improvement.