

In-hospital deaths

IDENTIFYING AND DEFINITIONAL ATTRIBUTES

SHORT NAME:	Number of in-hospital deaths
DESCRIPTION:	The total number of patients who died in hospital
TYPE OF QUALITY MEASURE:	Outcome measure
RATIONALE:	Several studies have demonstrated that rapid response systems have resulted in significant reduction of in-hospital deaths
DEFINITIONS:	<p>Admitted patient: any patient for whom the hospital accepts responsibility for the provision of inpatient care and/or treatment. Admission follows a clinical decision based upon specified criteria that a patient requires overnight care or treatment</p> <p>Separation: the process by which an episode of care for an admitted patient ceases. This may be formal or statistical</p>

COLLECTION AND USAGE ATTRIBUTES

POPULATION:	Admitted patients
COMPUTATION:	<p>Number of patients who died per 1000 hospital separations for the time period audited</p> $\frac{\text{Numerator}}{\text{Denominator}} \times 1000$
NUMERATOR:	Number of patients who have died in hospital for the time period audited
DENOMINATOR:	Number of patient separations for the time period audited

COMMENTS

COMMENTS:	<p>Patients who were declared dead on arrival at the hospital should be excluded</p> <p>Populations that have different rapid response system processes should be reviewed separately. These populations may include general adult and paediatric patients. If specific escalation protocols apply in other settings (such as maternity), these should also be reviewed separately</p> <p>Collecting data for this quality measure will require access to routine hospital data regarding separations and in-hospital deaths</p>
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REFERENCES

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:	<p>Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society and Australian Council on Health Care Standards. Intensive care indicators clinical indicators users' manual version 4. 2011</p> <p>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Index. (Accessed 5 August 2011, at http://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/327206.)</p> <p>Health Data Standards Committee 2008. National health data dictionary. Version 14. Cat. no. HWI 101. Canberra: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare</p> <p>Peberdy MA, Cretikos M, Abella BS, DeVita M, Goldhill D, Kloeck W, et al. Recommended guidelines for monitoring, reporting and conducting research on medical emergency team, outreach and rapid response systems: An Utstein-style scientific statement. <i>Circulation</i> 2007;116:2481-2500</p> <p>Sebat F. <i>Designing, implementing and enhancing a Rapid Response System</i>. Mount Prospect: Society of Critical Care Medicine, 2009</p>
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