

Readmission Data Analysis and Interpretation - Adapted from

Brief Description: A quantitative readmission analysis tool.

Purpose. **Analyze hospital administrative data to evaluate readmission patterns.** Understanding readmission patterns is critical to designing an effective readmission reduction strategy. This straightforward analysis will highlight high-leverage opportunities to reduce readmissions for the hospital overall. This tool can be modified for your hospital's particular data analysis needs.

Instructions:

1. Ask a data analyst (in quality or finance) to conduct this analysis. Enter data in white cells; gray cells will calculate automatically.

Use the following basic definitions:

- Denominator: all adult inpatient discharges for a given 1-year period, less exclusions listed below
- Numerator: all hospitalizations that occurred within 30 days of a discharge in the denominator

Details:

- Patient population: adults (18+)
 - Timeframe: past fiscal or calendar year, whichever is more convenient (12 months)
 - Discharge: discharge from the inpatient level of care
 - Exclusion: discharges deceased, transfers to acute care hospital, transfers to inpatient rehab hospitals, and discharges for childbirth-related DRGs
 - Payer: use the payer groups that are most relevant for your hospital. At a minimum, use "All Payer," "Medicare," "Medicaid," and "Commercial." Include Medicaid Managed Care Plans in the "Medicaid" category. Most hospitals define "Medicare" as specifically Medicare fee for service.
2. Review and interpret the data to identify target populations with high readmission rates.

Staff: Data analyst, business analyst, staff able to query administrative data.

Time Required: 6 hours

Additional Resources: Section 1 of the *Hospital Guide to Reducing Medicaid Readmissions* for more information about quantitative data analysis. **Tool 2: Readmission Review** gives guidance to collect and analyze complementary qualitative data.

Note that this tool can be modified by you should you wish to perform additional analyses such as by: race, To modify this tool you will need to change the headers to reflect the type of analysis you are performing.