

Mailing List

AHRQ offers Internet users the opportunity to sign up for personal notification of the availability of the AHRQ QIs and associated updates to the AHRQ QIs. All you need is a computer, Internet access, and an e-mail address. It works just like other electronic distribution lists. This service is free.

To register, follow these easy steps:

1. Send an e-mail message to:
listserv@qualityindicators.ahrq.gov
2. On the subject line, type: Subscribe.
(For example: Subscribe)
3. In the body of the message type: sub
Quality_Indicators-L and your full name.
(For example:
sub Quality_Indicators-L John Doe)

You will receive a message confirming that you are signed up.

User Tools and Support

- Software to compute QI rates
- A detailed users' guide to the *Pediatric Quality Indicators*
- Technical specifications
- Methodology to create composite measures
- Model report
- Frequently asked questions
- QI Support Team (support@qualityindicators.ahrq.gov or voice mailbox (toll free) at 888-512-6090).

The AHRQ QI software is available for SAS® and Windows®.

QI Web site: www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov


AHRQ Pub. No. 10-M043-3
Replaces AHRQ Pub. No. 09-M029-3
July 2010

**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
540 Gaither Road
Rockville, Maryland 20850

AHRQ Quality Indicators

Pediatric Quality Indicators

*A tool to help assess quality for children
in the hospital and in the community*



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
Advancing Excellence in Health Care • www.ahrq.gov

Pediatric Quality Indicators—

- Are used to help identify health care quality and safety problem areas in the hospital that need further investigation, as well as for comparative public reporting, trending, and pay-for-performance initiatives.
- Can provide a check on children’s primary care access or outpatient services in a community by using patient data found in a typical hospital discharge abstract.
- Apply to special characteristics of the pediatric population.
- Include risk adjustment where appropriate.
- Include *hospital-level* indicators to detect potential safety problems that occur during a patient’s hospital stay.
- Include *area-level* indicators, which are conditions that may be prevented with good outpatient care.
- Are publicly available without cost.
- Can be downloaded at www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/pdi_download.htm.

The *Pediatric Quality Indicators* are part of a set of software modules of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) **Quality Indicators** (QIs) developed by Battelle Memorial Institute, Stanford University, and the University of California, Davis under a contract with AHRQ. The *Pediatric Quality Indicators* were released in 2006.

The *Pediatric Quality Indicators* provide a perspective on potential complications and errors resulting from a hospital admission among children, adolescents, and, where specified, neonatal.

Hospital-level indicators

- Accidental puncture or laceration
- Pressure ulcer
- Foreign body left in during procedure
- Central venous catheter-related bloodstream infections
- Iatrogenic pneumothorax in neonates
- Iatrogenic pneumothorax
- Neonatal mortality
- Bloodstream infections in neonates
- Pediatric heart surgery mortality
- Pediatric heart surgery volume
- Postoperative hemorrhage or hematoma
- Postoperative respiratory failure
- Postoperative sepsis
- Postoperative wound dehiscence
- Transfusion reactions

Area-level indicators (e.g., county, State)

- Asthma admissions
- Diabetes short-term complications
- Gastroenteritis admissions
- Perforated appendix admissions
- Urinary tract infection admissions

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 inhospital procedures for which outcomes can vary from hospital to hospital; area-level indicators include procedures for which inpatient utilization rates have been shown to vary by metropolitan statistical area.

Patient Safety Indicators—Hospital- and area-level indicators that provide information on potential inhospital complications and errors following surgeries, other procedures, and childbirth.

See www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov for announcement of updates to AHRQ QI software, or sign up for personal notification (see “Mailing List” information on next page).

Endorsement

A number of QIs have been endorsed by the National Quality Forum (NQF). NQF reviews the endorsements periodically.

