Release Notes for AHRQ QI SAS® Syntax (Version 4.1a)
July 2, 2010

Summary

This SAS Version 4.1a release contains updates to the SAS Version 4.1 release (December, 2009) AHRQ QI software. There are two categories of changes for this release:

1. **Changes to the manner in which the data are reported**
    a. In the P3 programs in Version 4.1, the weighted numerator and denominator counts that were used in the computation of the expected, risk-adjusted, and smoothed rates were not reported in the P3 output. This release adds these counts to the P3 output. Because these weighted counts take on non-integer values, a rounding function was added.
    b. The P3 programs have always truncated the lower bound of the confidence interval for the risk-adjusted rate at zero (0). This release adds a similar truncation for the upper bound of the confidence interval at one (1). In the past the user typically just did this manually.
    c. Upper bound confidence intervals for risk-adjusted rates are also truncated to 1 for A3 and P3 programs.
    d. PSI #17 (Birth Trauma) – In the P3 program, we added an intercept term to the covariate files, so that the risk-adjusted rate is displayed in the P3 output. However, as was explained in the original release notes, this indicator is not risk adjusted (and therefore the observed rate equals the risk-adjusted rate).
    e. Added a FORMAT statement at the end of A3 and P3 programs to report the SAS output to the 7th decimal place.

2. **Material changes to the numerator, denominator, or rate calculations**
    a. PQI #2 (Perforated Appendix) – We added a denominator exclusion for cases in MDC 14 (PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH & THE PUERPERIUM) that was unintentionally omitted.
    b. PSI # 8 (POST-OPERATIVE HIP FRACTURE) – We removed two diagnosis codes from the POISONING set of exclusion diagnosis codes that were unintentionally left in. The codes were removed as part of WinQI 4.0.
        i. 96561 - POISON PROPIONIC ACID DERIV
        ii. 96569 - POISON OTH ANTIRHEUMATICS
    c. PSI # 11 (POST-OPERATIVE RESPIRATORY FAILURE) – We added an end comment statement that was unintentionally omitted. This was causing procedure code "290" (Pharyngotomy) to not be included in the CRANIOFACIAL ANOMOLIES exclusion procedure code set.
    d. PDI – We adjusted the program that writes the SAS output dataset to a text file. Formatting issues were resolved to allow for correctly creating the SAS output dataset in CSV format.

Detailed changes

Prevention Quality Indicators

PQSAS1.SAS

1. Added denominator exclusion to PQI #2 (Perforated Appendix) for cases in MDC 14

PQSASA3.SAS

1. Applied a truncation function to the upper bound confidence interval at 1.0 for the risk-adjusted rates

Inpatient Quality Indicators

IQSASA3.SAS

1. Applied a truncation function to the upper bound confidence interval at 1.0 for the risk-adjusted rates

IQSASP3.SAS

1. Report weighted numerator and denominator counts for indicators using POA in the risk-adjustment
2. Applied a rounding function to the numerator and denominator counts for all indicators
3. Applied a truncation function to the upper bound confidence interval at 1.0 for the risk-adjusted rates

Patient Safety Indicators

PSSASP3.SAS

1. Report weighted numerator and denominator counts for indicators using POA in the risk adjustment
2. Applied a rounding function to the numerator and denominator counts for all indicators
3. Applied a truncation function to the upper bound confidence interval at 1.0 for the risk-adjusted rates

PSFMTS.SAS
1. Updated PS formats by removing the following DIAGNOSIS CODES from the POISONING ($POISOID) set:
   - 96561 – POIS-PROPIONIC ACID DERV
   - 96569 – POISON-ANTHREUMATIC NEC
2. Fixed issue by adding end comment (*/) statement to LINE 7547 in PSFMTS.SAS.

This issue was causing PROCEDURE CODE 290 ***Pharyngotomy*** (on the next line) to be treated as a comment and not included in the CRANIOFACIAL ANOMOLIES ($CRANI1P) set. Adding the comment on LINE 7547 allows 290 to be included as a procedure code in $CRANI1P.

Pediatric Quality Indicators

PDSASA3.SAS

1. Applied a truncation function to the upper bound confidence interval at 1.0 for the risk-adjusted rates
2. Updated section that writes SAS dataset out to CSV file:
    - Add space after "MAREA" (before ",") on LINE 622 – this was causing an extra double quote to be written following MAREA in the .csv
    - Moved LINE 649 ("UAPD17" "," "UAPD18" ",") to be listed in front of LINE 648 ("UAPD90" "," "UAPD91" "," "UAPD92" ",") – which was causing these five variables to have incorrect names

PDSASP3.SAS

1. Report weighted numerator and denominator counts for indicators using POA in the risk adjustment
2. Applied a rounding function to the numerator and denominator counts for all indicators
3. Applied a truncation function to the upper bound confidence interval at 1.0 for the risk-adjusted rates
4. Added an intercept term to the covariate files (COVPDA41.TXT, CVPDA41A.TXT) for PDI #17