

Hospital-Acquired Conditions Expenditures Report

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Hospital-Acquired Condition (HAC) Reduction Program incentivizes hospitals to reduce their HAC rates by financially penalizing the worst performers.

Meeting these HAC Target % Reduction levels would have been sufficient for our facility to have avoided the penalty

MEASURE	SIR	TARGET SIR	TARGET % REDUCTION
CLABSI	2	1	50%
CAUTI	1	1	--%
SSI	1	1	--%
MRSA	1	1	--%
CDI	1	1	--%

Hospital-Acquired Conditions Expenditures Tool: Methodology & Limitations

PURPOSE

- This report is for facilities whose Healthcare Acquired Condition (HAC) rates resulted in a financial penalty via the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) HAC Reduction Program.
- This report incorporates the facility's preview or final HAC Reduction Program report data to provide:
 - an indication of whether user-provided Standardized Infection Ratios (SIRs) would have been sufficient to avoid the financial penalty, and
 - the option to add information about an HAI reduction intervention.

LIMITATIONS

- This tool is limited to SIR values. It does not provide the specific HAC rates or numbers of HAC events associated with avoiding the financial penalty.
- The HAC reductions estimated by this tool to avoid the financial penalty refer to reductions in the infections and units applicable to the HAC Reduction Program.
- The user is required to provide SIRs. It is recommended that the user understand the SIR methodology and the regression models used to calculate the predicted number of infections before estimating an SIR target. This information is covered in the National Healthcare Safety Network's detailed analysis guide.²
- This tool does not determine future standing with respect to financial penalties.
- This tool does not address Value Based Purchasing, which is another CMS HAC pay-for-performance program.

METHODOLOGY

- The HACET utilizes data provided to each facility by Quality Net¹ to allow the user to estimate the impact of HAI reductions on their ability to avoid incurring a financial penalty.
- The HACET calculates scores and determines whether or not a financial penalty would be incurred using the scoring methodology detailed in the Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program Fiscal Year 2020 Fact Sheet.³

EXPLANATION OF OUTPUT

See the sample results of the Hospital-Acquired Conditions Expenditures Tool at http://haitools.apic.org/Sample_HAECT_Report.pdf. In this hypothetical example, central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) has an SIR of 2.0, indicating the number of actual CLABSIs was double the number expected, while all other infection measures have SIRs of 1, indicating the number of actual events was equal to the number expected. These SIRs would have resulted in the organization incurring a HAC penalty. If the organization had reduced their CLABSI SIR by 50% to an SIR of 1 and kept all other measures constant, they would not have incurred a HAC penalty.

When presenting the results of this analysis, it is important to note that payment for potential admissions is not the same as organizational revenue. Obviously, an extra total joint replacement is not cost-free, but one can reasonably argue that it is certainly better than receiving no additional reimbursement because the higher-level Diagnostic Related Grouping (DRG) is the result of a non-reimbursable HAI event. These estimates of LOS and CMS are conservative but should be readily understood by audiences familiar with CMS, billing, and reimbursement. The estimates for attributable length of stay for the HAIs are largely contemporary and rooted in multi-facility analyses but are certainly subject to interpretation and scrutiny.

* The LOS used by this tool is the geometric mean length of stay (GMLOS) provided by CMS.

REFERENCES

1. CMS. QualityNet. <https://www.qualitynet.org/>
2. CDC. The NHSN Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR): A Guide to the SIR. Accessed March 30, 2020. <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ps-analysis-resources/nhsn-sir-guide.pdf>
3. CMS. Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program Fiscal Year 2020 Fact Sheet. Accessed March 30, 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AcuteInpatientPPS/Downloads/HAC-Reduction-Program-Fact-Sheet.pdf>.