

2007 – Pneumonia Care Measures

Pneumonia is a serious lung infection that causes difficulty breathing, fever, cough and fatigue. These quality measures show some of the recommended treatments for pneumonia.

INTERPRETING THE DATA:

Be careful when drawing conclusions from this information. Small numbers of patients may distort reported performance.

What does the fraction mean in all of the reports?

The denominator represents all those patients who were medically eligible to receive the particular treatment. The numerator represents all those patients who actually received the particular treatment for which they were medically qualified.

For example: Aspirin at Arrival: 80%; 8/10

This means that 10 patients were medically eligible to receive an aspirin on arrival to the hospital and 8 patients actually received it. If a patient is allergic to aspirin, that patient would NOT be part of the denominator. "0/0" means that no patients were medically eligible to receive that particular treatment.

Data Report Period: Discharges October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006:								
	Antibiotics within 4 Hours	Blood Cultures Prior to Antibiotics	Appropriate Antibiotics	Oxygenation Assessment	Pneumococcal Vaccination	Influenza Vaccination	Smoking Cessation Counseling	Composite Score
Definitions for the measures are provided after this table.								
National Average	79% 94,480/ 119,630	90.4% 96,835/ 107,109	84.8% 68,726/ 81,004	99.6% 146,861/ 147,413	74.9% 66,821/ 89,217	n/a	89% 30,358/ 34,109	n/a
State Average	83.78% 1116/1332	91.53% 1070/1169	88.77% 862/971	99.94% 1664/1665	81.4% 954/1172	64.06% 360/562	91.74% 311/339	59.93% 1008/1682
Achievable Benchmark (Represents the average performance achieved by the top hospitals in the U.S.)	95.9% 11,907/ 12,412	99.2% 10,844/ 10,929	97.7% 8,016/ 8,205	100% 14,769/ 14,770	98.2% 8,777/ 8,935	n/a	99.9% 3,767/ 3,770	n/a
Brattleboro Memorial Hospital	85.45% 47/55	98.11% 52/53	89.8% 44/49	100% 78/78	81.63% 40/49	60% 12/20	100% 12/12	67.09% 53/79
Central Vermont Medical Center	90.91% 110/121	90.83% 99/109	93.9% 77/82	100% 155/155	89.62% 95/106	56.6% 30/53	83.33% 30/36	69.03% 107/155
Copley Hospital	97.92% 47/48	87.5% 35/40	87.8% 36/41	100% 59/59	74.42% 32/43	66.67% 10/15	100% 10/10	64.41% 38/59
Fletcher Allen Health Care	81.55% 168/206	86.08% 167/194	90.54% 134/148	100% 281/281	69.83% 125/179	71.11% 64/90	94.64% 53/56	57.79% 167/289
Gifford Medical Center	82.14% 23/28	100% 20/20	95.83% 23/24	100% 33/33	73.91% 17/23	77.78% 7/9	77.78% 7/9	58.33% 21/36
Grace Cottage Hospital	71.43% 15/21	75% 6/8	100% 18/18	100% 27/27	90.91% 20/22	70% 7/10	50% 6/12	46.67% 14/30
Mt. Ascutney Hospital & Health Center	77.78% 14/18	93.75% 15/16	87.5% 14/16	100% 21/21	66.67% 12/18	57.14% 4/7	66.67% 4/6	42.86% 9/21

North Country Hospital	91.3% 42/46	87.5% 35/40	96.55% 28/29	100% 50/50	90.91% 30/33	78.95% 15/19	92.31% 12/13	72% 36/50
Northeastern VT Regional Hospital	64.1% 25/39	89.66% 26/29	84.38% 27/32	100% 44/44	90.63% 29/32	60% 9/15	50% 2/4	43.18% 19/44
Northwestern Medical Center	91.37% 127/139	88.24% 75/85	76.55% 111/145	99.35% 154/155	81.08% 90/111	65.31% 32/49	91.67% 22/24	52.9% 82/155
Porter Hospital	93.07% 94/101	96.15% 75/78	93.94% 62/66	100% 117/117	69.23% 63/91	59.57% 28/47	92.31% 12/13	64.1% 75/117
Rutland Regional Medical Center	73.48% 169/230	95.43% 209/219	90.97% 131/144	100% 290/290	84.76% 178/210	58.25% 60/103	98.15% 53/54	54.83% 159/290
Southwestern VT Medical Center	87.71% 157/179	92.93% 171/184	92.78% 90/97	100% 239/239	89.94% 161/179	64.29% 54/84	100% 67/67	71.25% 171/240
Springfield Hospital	77.23% 78/101	90.43% 85/94	83.75% 67/80	100% 116/116	81.58% 62/76	68.29% 28/41	91.3% 21/23	48.72% 57/117

The facilities below are voluntary reporters:

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Veterans Affairs Medical Center	65% 22/34	83% 29/35	100% 61/61	100% 43/43	88% 45/51	78% 18/23	38% 5/13	n/a
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital)	66% 95/145	84% 147/174	82% 81/99	100% 218/218	90% 134/149	80% 52/65	87% 46/53	n/a

Would you like to see a further source of hospital performance data? See Vermont information on the ["Hospital Compare" website](#).

"Hospital Compare" was developed in conjunction with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Hospital Quality Alliance (HQA). "Hospital Compare" shows measures based on data from hospitals' patient records. The data is converted to rates that measure how well hospitals care for their patients.

The table format, measure descriptions and definition of "Achievable Benchmark" were developed by the New Hampshire-based Foundation for Healthy Communities. The Northeast Healthcare Quality Foundation provided the data analysis. The Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration expresses its gratitude to both organizations.

Definitions / Explanations of Terms for PNEUMONIA CARE MEASUREMENTS

ANTIBIOTICS WITHIN 4 HOURS

Antibiotics are used to treat adults with pneumonia caused by bacteria. Early treatment with antibiotics can cure bacterial pneumonia and reduce the possibility of complications. This information shows the percent of patients who were given their first dose of antibiotics within 4 hours of arrival at the hospital. Patients who get pneumonia during their stay at the hospital are not counted in this measure. **Higher percentages are better.**

BLOOD CULTURES PRIOR TO ANTIBIOTICS

Different types of bacteria can cause pneumonia. A blood culture is a test that lets the health care provider know which bacteria may have caused your pneumonia, and which antibiotic should be prescribed. It is best to do the blood culture within 24 hours of arrival at the hospital and before antibiotics are started. It is also important to start antibiotics as soon as possible. A blood culture lets your health care provider know how to best treat you and if any precautions are necessary to prevent the spread of your illness. **Higher percentages are better.**

APPROPRIATE ANTIBIOTICS

Pneumonia is a lung infection that is usually caused by bacteria or a virus. If pneumonia is caused by bacteria, hospitals will treat the infection with antibiotics. Different bacteria are treated with different antibiotics. **Higher percentages are better.**

OXYGENATION ASSESSMENT

Pneumonia can lower the oxygen in your blood because the air spaces in your lungs fill with fluid. The oxygen you breath does not get into your bloodstream. It is important that the amount of oxygen in your blood be measured within 24 hours of arriving at the hospital to see if you need oxygen therapy. The assessment may include an ABG (arterial blood gas) or pulse oximetry (electrodes attached to a part of your body like a finger, earlobe, or skin fold). **Higher percentages are better.**

PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINATION

The pneumococcal vaccine may help you prevent, or lower the risk of complications of pneumonia caused by bacteria. It may also help you prevent future infections. **Higher percentages are better.**

SMOKING CESSATION COUNSELING

Smoking damages your lungs and can make it hard to breath. Smoking increases your chances of getting pneumonia or other chronic lung diseases like emphysema and bronchitis. Smoking is also linked to lung cancer, heart disease, and stroke, and can cause premature death. It is important for you to get information to help you quit smoking before you leave the hospital. Quitting may reduce your chance of getting pneumonia again. **Higher percentages are better.**

COMPOSITE SCORE

This represents the percent of patients that received ALL the care they were qualified to receive - the right care for every patient every time.