

2006 – Surgical Infection Prevention Measures

Hospitals can reduce the risk of wound infection after surgery by making sure patients get the right medicines at the right time on the day of surgery. These quality measures show some of the standards of care.

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				
	Prophylactic Antibiotic Received within 1 Hour Prior to Surgery	Prophylactic Antibiotic Selection for Surgical Patients* (*Data for this measure was collected 7/1/06 - 9/30/06)	Prophylactic Antibiotic Discontinued within 24 hours after Surgery	Composite Score
Definitions for the measures are provided after this table.				
National Average	84.8% 221,496/261,151	91.6% 238,739/260,545	75.1% 188,490/250,937	n/a
State Average	87.86% 2,019/2,298	92.6% 413/446	85.01% 1,894/2,228	75.53% 1747/2313
Achievable Benchmark (Represents the average performance achieved by the top hospitals in the U.S.)	97.7% 25,540/26,138	99.2% 26,060/26,275	95.6% 24,171/25,293	n/a
Brattleboro Memorial Hospital	94.16% 129/137	93.94% 31/33	91.6% 120/131	86.86% 119/137
Central Vermont Medical Ctr.	89.14% 197/221	97.37% 37/38	90.05% 190/211	80.44% 181/225
Copley Hospital	67.31% 70/104	100% 14/14	76.47% 78/102	55.66% 59/106
Fletcher Allen Health Care	86.82% 494/569	80.82% 59/73	91.19% 507/556	77.3% 446/577
Gifford Memorial Hospital	69.7% 23/33	100% 9/9	43.33% 13/30	36.36% 12/33
Mt. Ascutney Hospital	92.73% 51/55	100% 11/11	77.36% 41/53	74.55% 41/55
North Country Hospital	91.49% 43/47	100% 10/10	71.74% 33/46	70.21% 33/47

Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital	84.62% 77/91	90% 27/30	58.89% 53/90	49.45% 45/91
Northwestern Medical Center	79.58% 113/142	96.3% 26/27	33.1% 47/142	31.69% 45/142
Porter Hospital	91.22% 135/148	96.88% 31/32	90.97% 131/144	82.43% 122/148
Rutland Regional Medical Center	90.35% 365/404	92.63% 88/95	94.85% 368/388	84.69% 343/405
Southwestern Vermont Medical Center	94.48% 171/181	88.89% 32/36	91.18% 155/170	85.64% 155/181
Springfield Hospital	90.96% 151/166	100% 38/38	95.76% 158/165	87.95% 146/166

The facilities below are voluntary reporters:

	Prophylactic Antibiotic Received within 1 Hour Prior to Surgery	Prophylactic Antibiotic Selection for Surgical Patients* (*Data for this measure was collected 7/1/06 - 9/30/06)	Prophylactic Antibiotic Discontinued within 24 hours after Surgery	Composite Score
Veterans Affairs Medical Center	92% 77/84	n/a	84% 59/84	n/a
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital)	88% 591/671	n/a	80% 516/643	73% 487/671

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 SURGICAL INFECTION PREVENTION MEASUREMENTS

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.

PROPHYLACTIC ANTIBIOTIC RECEIVED WITHIN 1 HOUR PRIOR TO SURGERY

Antibiotics are medicines to prevent and treat infections. Research shows that surgery patients who get antibiotics within the hour before their operation are less likely to get wound infections. Getting an antibiotic earlier, or after surgery begins, is not as effective. This shows how often hospitals make sure surgery patients get antibiotics at the right time. **Higher percentages are better.**

PROPHYLACTIC ANTIBIOTICS DISCONTINUED WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER SURGERY

Antibiotics are medicines to prevent and treat infections. While the likelihood of infection after surgery can be reduced by giving patients preventative antibiotics, taking these antibiotics for more than 24 hours after routine surgery is usually not necessary and can increase the risk of side effects such as stomach aches, serious types of diarrhea, and antibiotic resistance (when antibiotics are used too much, they will not work anymore.) There are exceptions - for example, where the surgical site has been contaminated (making the surgery not routine). Talk to your doctor if you have questions about how long you should take antibiotics after surgery. **Higher percentages are better.**