

Specification Manual for National Hospital Quality Measures

Release Notes 2.1d

December 21, 2006

Guidelines for Using Release Notes

Release Notes 2.1d provide modifications to the *Specifications Manual for National Hospital Quality Measures*.

The notes are organized to follow the order of the Table of Contents. Within each topic section, a row represents a change beginning with general changes followed by data elements in alphabetical order. The column headings are described below:

- **Manual Section** - this is used to identify which section(s) listed in the Table of Contents contain the change listed. The sections are Data Dictionary, Measure Information, Missing and Invalid Data, Sampling Methods, etc.
 - **Impacts** - this is used to identify which portion(s) of the Manual Section is impacted by the change listed. Examples are Alphabetical Data Element List, Data Element Pages, (Topic) Data Element List, Measure Information Form (MIF) and Flowchart (Algorithm). The measures that the data element is collected for are identified.
 - **Description of Changes** - this is used to identify the section within the document where the change occurs, e.g., Definition, Data Collection Question, Allowable Value, and Denominator Data Elements.
 - **Page**- the beginning page number is from the 2.1c version of the manual
 - **Implementation Date**- Date when change is to be implemented
- Data elements that cross multiple measures and contain the same changes will be consolidated into one row. If those changes do not apply to all of the measures listed in the Impacts column that is identified in the description of changes.

This document should allow the reader to identify the exact location of each change by reading from left to right across the columns. An **example** is: Changing a note for abstraction within *Antibiotic Allergy*, which is collected for SCIP-Inf-2, PN-6, PN-6a, PN-6b.

Example

Surgical Care Improvement Project			
Antibiotic Allergy			
Manual Section	Impacts	Description of Changes	Page
Data Dictionary	Data Element Pages Measures: SCIP-Inf-2 PN-6 PN-6a PN-6b	<u>Notes for Abstraction</u> Change to read: If the patient was noted to be allergic to "cillins," "penicillin," or "all cillins," Select "Yes."	1-42

Manual Section	Impacts	Description of Changes	Page	Implementation Date
Surgical Care Improvement Project				
Measure Information	SCIP Flowchart (Algorithm) SCIP-VTE-2	Add note near every <i>VTE Timely</i> decision point where cases are assigned measure category assignments, to process cases to a measure outcome of D wherever there is a combination of 'N' and 'Missing/Invalid' values of <i>VTE Timely</i> . Add note near every <i>VTE Timely</i> decision point where cases flow back into the logic to process cases with a combination of 'N' and 'Missing/Invalid' values for <i>VTE Timely</i> . In this scenario the case should flow back into the logic for further processing.	SCIP-VTE 2-9, SCIP-VTE 2-10, SCIP-VTE 2-11	10-01-2006 Discharges

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Manual Section	Impacts	Description of Changes	Page	Implementation Date
		The general rule to process grid-level data elements where there are combinations of 'N' and 'Missing/Invalid' is to process the logic similar to those cases with an all 'N' values.		
National Hospital Quality Measure Data Transmission				
CMS National Hospital Quality Measure Data Transmission	XML File Layout By Question Name	<u>Table A</u> <u>Applicable Measure(s) column</u> Remove the phrase (Required if VTEPROA is answered "yes") from the question VTE Prophylaxis and VTE Timely	Page 19 of Table A	10-01-2006 Discharges