Guidelines for Using Release Notes
Release Notes 4.2b provide modifications to the Specifications Manual for National Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures. The Release Notes are provided as a reference tool and are not intended to be used to program abstraction tools. Please refer to the Specifications Manual for National Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures for the complete and current technical specifications and abstraction information.

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 implementation date is 01-01-2013, unless otherwise specified. The headings are described below:

- **Impacts** - used to identify which portion(s) of the Manual Section is impacted by the change listed. Examples are Alphabetical Data Dictionary, (Measure Set) Data Element List, Measure Information Form (MIF) and Flowchart (Algorithm). The measures that the data element is collected for are identified.
- **Description of Changes** - used to identify the section within the document where the change occurs, e.g., Definition, Data Collection Question, Allowable Values, and Denominator Statement - Data Elements.
- **Rationale** - provided for the change being made.

Data elements that cross multiple measures and contain the same changes will be consolidated.
Release Notes version 4.2b - The notes in the tables below are organized to follow the Table of Contents in the specifications manual. The implementation date is 01/01/2013 unless otherwise specified.

SECTION 1 – Data Dictionary

Impacts:
Alphabetical Data Dictionary

Data Element(s)
Overlap Therapy

Measure(s)
VTE-3

Rationale: Oral Factor Xa Inhibitor, specifically Xarelto (rivaroxiban) has been approved for the treatment of VTE in medical surgical patients on November 2, 2012.

Description of Changes:
Inclusion Guidelines for Abstraction:
Add:
• Use of oral anticoagulants other than warfarin (such as Xarelto or rivaroxaban for treatment of VTE)

Impacts:
Alphabetical Data Dictionary

Data Element(s)
Preadmission Oral Anticoagulation Therapy

Measure(s)
SCIP-VTE-2

Rationale: Rivaroxaban (Xarelto) has been approved for VTE treatment. Patients on preadmission oral anticoagulants should be excluded from the SCIP VTE prophylaxis measure.

Description of Changes:
Inclusion Guidelines for Abstraction
Remove Coumadin, Dabigatran, Dabigatran Etexilate, Jantoven, Pradaxa, Warfarin.

Add:
• Direct thrombin inhibitors
• Factor Xa inhibitors

Add:
The oral anticoagulants above may include, but are not limited to:
Direct thrombin inhibitors
• Dabigatran
• Dabigatran Etexilate
• Pradaxa
Factor Xa inhibitors
  • Rivaroxaban
  • Xarelto
Warfarin Sodium
  • Coumadin
  • Jantoven
  • Warfarin

**Impacts:**
Alphabetical Data Dictionary

**Data Element(s)**
*Reason for Oral Factor Xa Inhibitor*
*Reason for Oral Factor Xa Inhibitor – ICU Admission*

**Measure(s)**
STK-1
VTE-1
VTE-2

**Rationale:** Oral Factor Xa Inhibitor, specifically Xarelto (rivaroxiban) has been approved for the treatment of VTE in medical surgical patients on November 2, 2012.

**Description of Changes:**

**Notes for Abstraction:**

**Add:**
  • History of treatment for venous thromboembolism or current treatment for venous thromboembolism, select “Yes”.

**Inclusion Guidelines for Abstraction:** This list is all inclusive

**Add:**
  • Treatment of venous thromboembolism

**SECTION 2 – Measure Information**

**Subsection 2.2 – Heart Failure (HF)**
In the PDF conversion process with the previous posting, text in the HF-1 algorithm was lost. The text has been restored in the algorithm and the Heart Failure portion of the Measure Information section was replaced.

**Subsection 2.4 – Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP)**
In the PDF conversion process with the previous posting, text in the SCIP-Inf-1 algorithm was lost. The text has been restored in the algorithm and the SCIP portion of the Measure Information section was replaced.