The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has developed four types of Quality Indicators (QIs), measures of healthcare quality, that make use of hospital inpatient discharge data. Prevention Quality Indicators (PQIs) identify adult hospital admissions for "ambulatory care-sensitive conditions"; hospitalizations that evidence suggests may have been avoided through access to high-quality outpatient care. These measures assess the quality of the healthcare system as a whole, especially ambulatory care, in preventing hospitalizations due to potentially-avoidable medical complications.

Area-Level (Statewide, County) hospitalization rates are provided for the following PQI measures:

(Unless otherwise noted below, the PQIs are specific to the adult (age 18+) population.)

- PQI #1 Diabetes Short-term Complications
- PQI #2 Perforated Appendix (ruptured appendix)
- PQI #3 Diabetes Long-term Complications
- PQI #5 Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) (chronic bronchitis or emphysema) or Asthma in Older Adults (Ages 40 and over)
- PQI #7 Hypertension (high blood pressure)
- PQI #8 Heart Failure
- PQI #10 Dehydration
- PQI #11 Bacterial Pneumonia
- PQI #12 Urinary Tract Infection
- PQI #13 Angina without Procedure (Note: AHRQ has retired PQI #13, effective with PQI Version 6.0)
- PQI #14 Uncontrolled Diabetes
- PQI #15 Asthma in Younger Adults (Ages 18-39)
- PQI #16 Lower-Extremity Amputation among Patients with Diabetes (removal of leg or foot due to diabetes complications)
- PQI #90 Prevention Quality Overall Composite (includes PQIs #1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, and 16)
- PQI #91 Prevention Quality Acute Composite (includes PQIs #10, 11, and 12)
- PQI #92 Prevention Quality Chronic Composite (includes PQIs #1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, 15, and 16)
- PQI #93 Prevention Quality Diabetes Composite (includes PQIs #1, 3, 14, 16)

The technical specifications for the above indicators can be found at [www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/Modules/PQI_TechSpec_ICD10_v60.asp](http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/Modules/PQI_TechSpec_ICD10_v60.asp).

Technical Notes:
The Observed Rates are calculated per 100,000 state or county population with the exception of PQI #2-Perforated Appendix (per 100 appendicitis cases). Rates based on a small number of cases should be interpreted with caution.

NOTE: A change in the reporting of diagnoses/procedures from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM/PCS (effective October 1, 2015) required some significant changes to the technical specifications for each PQI condition. Due to these changes, trend comparisons to pre-2016 data is not recommended.

Data Sources:
Numerator = AHRQ, Prevention Quality Indicators, Version 6.01; OSHPD CA Patient Discharge Data.

More information about the AHRQ Quality Indicators is available at [www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov](http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov).

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