

Capstone Quality Award Criteria - Home Health Agencies

The 2010 Louisiana Home Health Quality Capstone Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize Louisiana home health agencies who have excelled at reducing avoidable acute care hospitalizations. Home health agencies were not required to apply for the award.

AWARD CRITERIA

For the home health setting, only the acute care hospitalization (ACH) measure is considered. ACH is a risk adjusted outcome measure. Lower numbers indicate better outcomes. For determining if a home health agency is eligible for an award, an ACH measure equal to or less than the 10th percentile of the ACH measure's distribution in the state was used. Using 2009 data, the 10th percentile is 29%.

MEASURES USED FOR HOME HEALTH AWARDS

Numerator: Number of home health episodes of care for which the assessment completed at the conclusion of the episode indicates the patient was admitted to a hospital for a reason other than a scheduled treatment or procedure.

Denominator: Number of home health episodes of care ending with a discharge or transfer to inpatient facility during the reporting period, other than those covered by generic or measure-specific exclusions.

Exclusion: Home health episodes of care that end in patient death.

This measure is risk adjusted. The purpose of risk adjusting outcome measures is to adjust reported values to account for case-mix differences among home health agencies.

For details on risk adjustment and prediction model development see:

<http://www.medicare.gov/HomeHealthCompare/Data/Measures/StatisticalMethods.aspx>

and

<http://www.medicare.gov/HomeHealthCompare/Data/Measures/RiskAdjustment.aspx>

CALCULATION

Calendar year 2009 data are used for home health agencies.