

Indicators of effectiveness

Identifying and definitional attributes

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Description: Indicators of effectiveness, also known as outcome indicators, provide markers of how close care is to recommended care, monitor outcomes and provide signals to patients and clinicians on quality of care. In 2009, Australian Health Ministers endorsed the recommendation by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) that hospitals routinely review a set of core hospital level outcome indicators.

The indicator set includes:

- in hospital mortality for fractured neck of femur
- unplanned/unexpected same hospital readmissions of patients discharged following management of hip replacement.

These indicators were subsequently included in the Australian national health *Performance and Accountability Framework (PAF)*.^a The PAF specifies indicators that are intended to be publicly reported at hospital and [Local Hospital Network](#) level. The specification for these indicators is published on the Commission's website,^b and the public and private hospital sector have been provided with a *Toolkit*, which enables local generation of these indicators.

Ongoing monitoring and review of a set of outcome-based indicators can detect significant variance and highlight issues of data quality and consistency, resources, or of quality of care. High outlier rates should be seen as a prompt to further detailed investigation. Several jurisdictions and private hospital ownership groups generate these indicators, and provide them to hospitals for routine review and investigation of high outlier rates.

Where routine access to linked hospitalisation and mortality datasets is available, or where individual patient follow-up is authorised for studies and registries, the following endpoints are sometimes used in monitoring patient outcomes:

- 30 day mortality following hip fracture^c
- discharge to usual place of residence
- 3 month outcome indicators based on survival status, place of residence, living alone status, and quality of life. Three month outcome indicators are best collected via manual case follow-up or, for death and readmission, state wide or nationally linked datasets.

^a Available at www.nhpa.gov.au/internet/nhpa/publishing.nsf/Content/PAF.

^b See www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/information-strategy/indicators/core-hospital-based-outcome-indicators/.

^c See bhi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/177205/APR_HealthcareInFocus2012_effectiveness-appropriateness.pdf.

Relational attributes

Indicator sets linked to this outcome area: [Clinical care standard indicators: hip fractureHealth](#), Standard 12/09/2016
[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Superseded 18/06/2018

Indicators linked to this outcome area: [Clinical care standard indicators: hip fracture 2018Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 15/05/2018
[Hip fracture care clinical care standard indicators: 8a-Re-operation of hip fracture patients within 30-day follow-upHealth](#), Standard 12/09/2016

[Hip fracture care clinical care standard indicators: 8a-Re-operation of hip fracture patients within 30-day follow-upHealth](#), Standard 12/09/2016

[Hip fracture care clinical care standard indicators: 8b-Survival at 30 days post-admission for hip fracture surgeryHealth](#), Standard 12/09/2016

[Hip fracture care clinical care standard indicators: 8b-Survival at 30 days post-admission for hip fracture surgeryHealth](#), Standard 12/09/2016

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care