Specifications Manual for Joint Commission
National Quality Measures


Guidelines for Using Release Notes

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.
  
  **Note**: In addition to being called out specifically in the Release Notes document, simple additions will be grey highlighted in the Release notes.

- **Rationale** - provided for the change being made.

Data elements that cross multiple measures and contain the same changes will be consolidated.
Impacts: PC-04 Measure Algorithm

Rationale: To align with NHQM. Send the algorithm to Category Assignment ‘X’ when Discharge Disposition is missing.

Description of Changes:

Change the on-page connector from PC-04 K to PC-04 R for ICD-9-CM Other Diagnosis codes at least one on table 11.15, 11.16, 11.16.1, 11.17

Add the following branches into the algorithm after the branch of verifying Birth Weight is missing or UTD:
1. Check Birth Weight range
2. Check ICD-9-CM Principal or Other Procedure codes on table 11.18 or 11.19
3. Check ICD-9-CM Principal Diagnosis code on table 11.10.3
4. Check Discharge Disposition is missing or = 6

Impacts: PC-05 Measure Information Form

Rationale: To correct typo.

Description of Changes:

Denominator Statement – Included Populations:
Change from: Liveborn newborns with ICD-9-CM Principal Diagnosis Code or ICD-9-CM Other Diagnosis Codes for single liveborn newborn as defined in Appendix A, Table 11.20.1
To: Liveborn newborns with ICD-9-CM Principal Diagnosis Code for single liveborn newborn as defined in Appendix A, Table 11.20.1

Impacts: PC Initial Patient Population Algorithm

Rationale: To ease the burden of using Discharge Disposition in the BSI (PC-04) Initial Patient Population logic, guidance of how to map Discharge Status to Discharge Disposition is provided in a notebox in the BSI population algorithm page.

Description of Changes:

PC-Newborns with BSI subpopulation Page

Add: Note: To determine eligible cases using Discharge Status codes, Discharge
Status value = 20 has the same description as Discharge Disposition value=6