Indicator description

RIS indicator name
Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratio (HSMR)

Other names for this indicator
N/A

Indicator description
The hospital standardized mortality ratio (HSMR) is a “big-dot” summary measure that is used to track a hospital’s mortality rate over time. The HSMR is a tool that allows hospitals to measure and monitor their progress in quality of care.

HSMR is a ratio of the actual number of in-hospital deaths in a region or hospital to the number that would have been expected based on the types of patients a region or hospital treats. It focuses on the diagnosis groups that account for the majority of in-hospital deaths.

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\text{HSMR} = \frac{\text{Observed deaths}}{\text{Expected deaths}} \times 100.
\]

A ratio equal to 100 suggests that there is no difference between a local mortality rate and the average national experience, given the types of patients cared for. An HSMR greater or less than 100 suggests that a local mortality rate is higher or lower, respectively, than the national experience.

Accountability agreement(s) or ministry initiative(s) the indicator supports
- Hospital Service Accountability Agreement (HSAA), 2017 – 2018

Additional information

Contact information
This indicator is calculated by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).