

Standard Definitions for Patient Outcome Data Elements

Outcome	Defined Data Elements	Additional Information
Unplanned Hospitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unplanned hospitalization Related Unplanned Hospitalization Unrelated Unplanned Hospitalization Reasons for Unplanned Hospitalization Outcome of Unplanned Hospitalization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed definition for “Unplanned Hospitalization” follows billing claim status. Reason categories are broadly based to allow individual providers the option to collect more detailed information. The outcome informs about the impact of the event on the home infusion episode.
Emergency Department Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Department Use Related Emergency Department Use Unrelated Emergency Department Use Reasons for Emergency Department Use Outcome of Emergency Department Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reason categories are broadly based to allow individual providers the option to collect more detailed information. The outcome informs about the impact of the event on the home infusion episode.
Adverse Drug Reaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adverse Drug Reaction ADR Classification ADR Interventions ADR Outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The definition of ADR emphasizes events other than mild and moderate known side effects. The ADR Classification scale is adopted from WHO. The outcome informs about the impact of the event on the home infusion episode.
Access Device Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access Device Events Access Device Categories Access Device Interventions Access Device Outcomes Suspected Access Device Infection Secondary Data Elements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access device categories mirror those of the Infusion Nursing Society Standards The outcome informs about the impact of the event on the home infusion episode.
Medication Error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medication Error 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The definition was adopted from NCCMERP and ISMP.
Discharge Reasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge Reasons Therapy Complete 	

BACKGROUND

The Standard Definitions for Patient Outcome Data Elements are presented by the National Home Infusion Association (NHIA) to home and specialty infusion providers for use when collecting data related to patient events as part of ongoing quality improvement activities. These definitions were developed by a volunteer-based Outcomes Task Force comprised of individual provider and business-firm members committed to the utilization of quality data to advance the infusion industry. Standardized definitions will allow providers to engage in industry-wide benchmarking and research activities, generating the necessary data for demonstrating the quality and value associated with administering infused medications in the home setting. Providers are encouraged to adopt the NHIA Patient Outcome Definitions to become eligible for participation in future industry-wide quality data initiatives.

IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

The NHIA data elements are designed to consolidate data into broader categories to facilitate comparisons across different providers. For example: The reason “*Change in Eligibility*” encompasses many elements that impact whether or not a patient can receive home infusion services, such as caregiver status, reimbursement challenges, or loss of IV access. Providers may wish to collect more specific data at an organizational level; however the more detailed data would be mapped to the broader category for national reporting purposes.

NHIA recognizes that individual providers use a variety of software systems and processes to collect data, and understands that differences exist with regard to the clinical terminology used today. NHIA knows that some adaptation may need to occur to achieve standardization with these outcome data elements; however the Outcomes Task Force made every effort to develop data definitions that are broad enough to accommodate variations in software and data collection processes between providers.

REPORTING DATA

Currently, no standardized reporting methods for the above Patient Outcome Data Elements are being proposed by NHIA. Individual providers should continue to evaluate and determine the best way to internally collect, analyze, summarize and utilize patient outcome data to improve quality and patient care practices. Efforts to create industry-wide quality measures to standardize the reporting of patient outcomes across multiple providers and provider types are underway.

QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS

Questions or comments regarding the Standard Definitions for Patient Outcome Data Elements should be directed to Connie Sullivan, Sr. Director of Education and Data (NHIA) and Vice President of Research (NHIF) at connie.sullivan@nhia.org.

For additional information about the NHIA Data Initiative, please visit the NHIA website at <http://www.nhia.org/data/index.cfm>.