

Key Findings

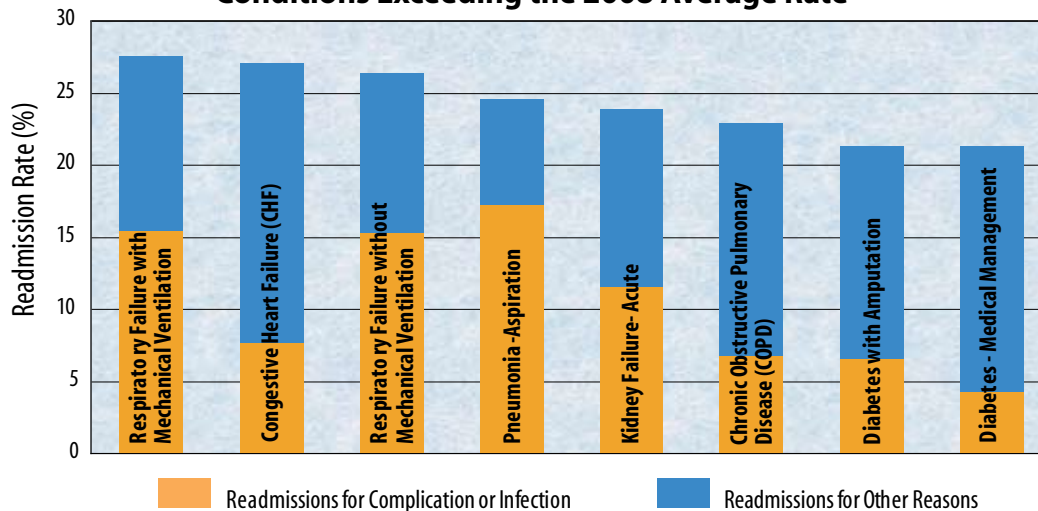
Mortality Rates

- The overall mortality rate for the 20 conditions consistently reported in 2002 through 2008 showed a statistically significant decrease, from 5.1% in 2002 to 4.2% in 2008.
- Patient mortality rates showed a statistically significant decrease in 14 of these 20 conditions between 2002 and 2008. The largest statistically significant decline was in Stroke - Hemorrhagic, where the mortality rate decreased from 33.7% in 2002 to 26.2% in 2008.
- Among the conditions reported in 2008, Respiratory Failure with Mechanical Ventilation had the highest mortality rate at 29.5%. Hysterectomy - Abdominal had the lowest rate at 0.1%.

Readmissions for Any Reason

- There were 57,852 readmissions for any reason in 2008 (for the 21 categories for which readmission ratings were reported). These readmissions amounted to approximately \$2.5 billion in charges and 350,000 hospital days.
- Eight of the conditions had readmission rates for any reason that exceeded the overall rate of 18.9% (based on all 21 conditions for which readmissions were reported in 2008).

**Rates of Readmission for Any Reason:
Conditions Exceeding the 2008 Average Rate***



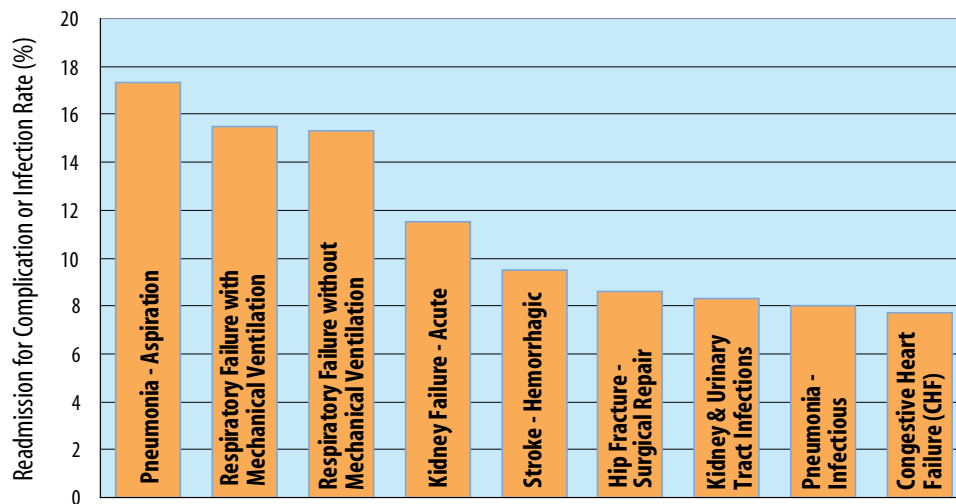
* The overall rate for the 21 conditions for which readmissions for any reason were reported in 2008 was 18.9%.

- The overall readmission rate for the 15 conditions reported consistently in 2002 through 2008 showed a statistically significant increase from 18.3% in 2002 to 19.1% in 2008. However, it is important to note this rate reached a plateau in recent years: the 2008 rate was not significantly different from the 2004 rate of 19.0%. The largest significant increase over this time period was in Diabetes - Medical Management, where the readmission rate increased from 19.4% in 2002 to 21.3% in 2008.
- Among the conditions reported in 2008, Respiratory Failure with Mechanical Ventilation had the highest readmission rate at 27.6%. Hysterectomy - Vaginal had the lowest rate at 3.0%.

Readmissions for Complication or Infection

- There were 22,094 readmissions for complication or infection in 2008 (for the 21 categories for which these rates were reported in 2008). These readmissions amounted to approximately \$1.1 billion in charges and 157,000 hospital days.
- Nine of the conditions had readmission rates for complication or infection that exceeded the overall rate of 7.2% (based on all 21 conditions for which these rates were reported in 2008).

**Rates of Readmission for Complication or Infection:
Conditions Exceeding the 2008 Average Rate***



* The overall rate for the 21 conditions for which readmissions for complication or infection were reported in 2008 was 7.2%.

- The condition with the highest readmission rate for complication or infection in 2008 was Pneumonia - Aspiration (17.3%). The condition with the lowest rate was Hysterectomy - Vaginal (2.1%).

Length of Stay

- There was wide variation in length of stay among hospitals in 2008. The condition with the most variation was Diabetes with Amputation, where hospitals' average length of stay ranged from 4.1 to 16.1 days after taking patient risk factors into account.
- The average length of stay showed a statistically significant decrease in 17 of the 24 conditions for which length of stay was consistently reported between 2002 and 2008. The largest decline was in Prostatectomy - Radical, where the average length of stay decreased from 3.3 days in 2002 to 2.3 days in 2008. The average length of stay also increased significantly in two conditions during this time period. The largest increase was in Gallbladder Removal - Laparoscopic, where the average length of stay increased from 3.2 days in 2002 to 3.6 days in 2008.