ICSI
Institute for Clinical
Systems Improvement

The Aims and Measures section is intended to provide protocol users with a menu of measures for multiple purposes that may include the following:

- population health improvement measures,

- quality improvement measures for delivery systems,

- measures from regulatory organizations such as Joint Commission,

- measures that are currently required for public reporting,

- measures that are part of Center for Medicare Services Physician Quality Reporting initiative, and

- other measures from local and national organizations aimed at measuring population health and improvement of care delivery.

This section provides resources, strategies and measurement for use in closing the gap between current clinical practice and the recommendations set forth in the guideline.

The subdivisions of this section are:

- Aims and Measures

Aims and Measures

1. Increase the percentage of patient's age 18 years and over receiving appropriate thrombolytic and appropriate antithrombotic therapy for ischemic stroke (tPA and aspirin, other antiplatelet agents, or an anticoagulant).

   Measure for accomplishing this aim:

   a. Percentage of eligible patients with ischemic stroke treated with tPA.

2. Increase the percentage of stroke patients age 18 years and over who receive appropriate medical management within the initial 24-48 hours of diagnosis for prevention of complications such as:

   • Aspiration

   • Deep vein thrombosis

   • Nutritional status decline

   Measures for accomplishing this aim:

   a. Percentage of ischemic stroke patients with paralysis or other reason for immobility who receive appropriate prevention for venous thromboembolism (subcutaneous heparin or pneumatic compression device).

   b. Percentage of ischemic stroke patients who are assessed with a swallow screening test before receiving food, fluids or medications by mouth.

Measurement Specifications

Measurement #1a

Percentage of eligible patients with ischemic stroke treated with tPA.

Population Definition

Patients age 18 years and older initially presenting with acute symptoms of ischemic stroke who are eligible for tPA.

Data of Interest

$$\frac{\text{\# of patients treated with tPA}}{\text{\# of patients eligible for tPA}}$$

Numerator/Denominator Definitions

Numerator: Number of patients who were treated with tPA.

Denominator: Number of patients eligible for tPA treatment.

Method/Source of Data Collection

Review EHR for patients meeting criteria under Population Definition and determine the number of patients treated with tPA.

Time Frame Pertaining to Data Collection

Monthly.

Notes

This is a process measure, and improvement is noted as an increase in the rate.

Measurement #2a

Percentage of patients with ischemic stroke with paralysis or other reason for immobility receiving appropriate prevention for venous thromboembolism (subcutaneous heparin or pneumatic compression device).

Population Definition

Patients age 18 years and older initially presenting with acute symptoms of ischemic stroke with paralysis or other reason for immobility.

Data of Interest

$$\frac{\text{\# of patients who have appropriate prevention for VTE}}{\text{\# of patients who present with acute symptoms of ischemic stroke and paralysis or other reason for immobility}}$$

Numerator and Denominator Definitions

Numerator: Number of patients who have appropriate prevention for VTE such as subcutaneous heparin or pneumatic compression device.

Denominator: Number of patients presenting with acute symptoms of ischemic stroke and paralysis or other reason for immobility.

Method/Source of Data Collection

Review EHR for patients meeting criteria under Population Definition and determine the number of patients who have appropriate prevention for VTE.

Time Frame Pertaining to Data Collection

Monthly.

Notes

This is a process measure, and improvement is noted as an increase in the rate.

Measurement #2b

Percentage of ischemic stroke patients who are assessed with a swallow screening test before receiving food, fluids or medications by mouth.

Population Definition

Patients age 18 years and older initially presenting with acute symptoms of ischemic stroke.

Data of Interest

$$\frac{\text{\# of patients who receive an early swallow evaluation}}{\text{\# of patients who present with acute ischemic stroke}}$$

Numerator and Denominator Definitions

Numerator: Number of patients who were screened for dysphagia before taking any food, fluids or medication (including aspirin) by mouth.

Denominator: Number of all patients presenting with symptoms of acute ischemic stroke.

Method/Source of Data Collection

Review EHR for patients meeting criteria under Population Definition and determine the number of patients who have an early swallow evaluation.

Time Frame Pertaining to Data Collection

Monthly.

Notes

This is a process measure, and improvement is noted as an increase in the rate.