


Island Health Performance Measures

Hospital Harm - Pneumonia



Year to Date Performance	4.59	Performance Assessment	 Red
Island Health Target	Less than or equal to 4.25	Performance is significantly outside acceptable range; take action and monitor progress.	

What do we measure and why?

Hospitals are generally safe, but sometimes harmful events happen that affect patients. Many of these events are preventable. Tracking and reporting harmful events is vital to improving care.

The Hospital Harm - Pneumonia rate is calculated as the total number of hospital discharges with in-hospital pneumonia recorded, divided by the total number of hospital discharges, and reported as a rate per 1,000 discharges.

The Hospital Harm Indicator was developed by the Canadian Institute for Health Information in partnership with the Canadian Patient Safety Institute, and tracks 31 different types of unintended harm that might occur in hospital and that could possibly be prevented with the use of known, evidence-based practices. This particular measure focuses on in-hospital pneumonia.

The Canadian Patient Safety Institute is developing resources linked to the hospital harm measures to support patient safety and improvement efforts.

Lower rates are better.

What is the target?

Island Health's target for Hospital Harm - Pneumonia in 2018/19 is 4.25 or lower, which is intended to reflect improvement over historical performance. A rate higher than 4.51 (2015/16's rate) would be flagged as red, requiring action.

How are we doing?

As of January 2019, Island Health's Hospital Harm - Pneumonia rate is not meeting the target.

What actions are we taking?

Island Health's Quality, Practice and Improvement consultants continue to work with clinical areas across Island Health to investigate the data, explore the Canadian Patient Safety Institute's resource guides, and implement ongoing improvements. As the data reflect the patient journey through Island Health's facilities rather than one specific area, improvements require an integrated approach.

For pneumonia specifically, Saanich Peninsula and Cowichan District Hospitals have conducted more in-depth reviews of pneumonia cases at those sites.

It is important to note that the hospital harm indicators are based on retrospective data, so improvements achieved today may not be apparent in the rates for up to six months later.

No single action or individual can ensure safe care, but through collaboration and evidence-informed practices, health care can be made safer for all Island Health residents.