

# Island Health Performance Measures

## Hospitalizations, Age 75+



Year to Date  
Performance

**275 (2018/19)**

Island Health  
Target

**Less than or equal to  
271 (2018/19)**

Performance  
Assessment



**Yellow**

Performance is outside acceptable range;  
monitor and take action as appropriate.

### What do we measure and why?

The Hospitalizations, Age 75+ rate measures the number of discharged patients per 1,000 population aged 75 years and older who stayed at least one night in hospital. This measure is calculated and reported by the BC Ministry of Health.

Hospitalization rate is an important indicator of hospital activities, and allows comparison of acute hospital services utilization by Island Health residents over time. Hospital activities are affected by a number of factors, including the demand for hospital services, the capacity of hospitals to treat patients, the ability of the primary care sector to prevent avoidable hospital admissions, and the availability of post-acute care settings to provide rehabilitative and long-term care services.

This measure is an important indicator of illness in the population, the utilization of inpatient hospital services over time, and the effectiveness of primary health care. Improvements in primary and community care will hopefully be reflected by decreases in the acute hospitalization rate.

### What is the target?

Island Health's target for 2018/19 was less than or equal to 271.

The target for 2019/20 is less than or equal to 275, which would be an improvement over 2018/19's rate.

### How are we doing?

Island Health's hospitalization rate for discharged patients per 1,000 population aged 75 years and older was 275 per 1000 in 2018/19, which did not meet the target.

The rate has remained between 271 and 287 over the past five fiscal years.

### What actions are we taking?

Leadership across Island Health's geographies and hospitals work together on plans to ensure regional alignment and collaboration, including initiatives to align community physicians, allied health professionals, case management professionals, seniors, and intake resources to identify alternatives to hospital care.

Work is also underway to improve communication and partnerships among general/family practice physicians and hospitalists in an effort to reduce readmissions.

As work continues on enhancing primary and community care across Island Health, we anticipate future long-term reductions in this rate.