Clinical Quality Measures for San Francisco General Hospital

The clinical quality measures below are slated for public release on the CHCF-sponsored public website CalQualityCare.org. CHCF uses a rating system that includes superior, above average, average, below average, and poor. For each measure, we also benchmark your hospital’s rate against hospitals: (1) in your Perinatal Region (one of 11 geographic regions in California); (2) with your level of nursery care (Basic, Intermediate, Community NICU or Regional NICU); and (3) the state as a whole.

The CMQCC Maternal Data Center (CMDC) website provides numerous additional perinatal metrics for the confidential use of hospitals. Access is available by using the sign-in code within the attached letter. (If you did not receive a sign-in code, contact Anne Castles at acastles@cmqcc.org). For more information on measure definitions and performance scoring methodology, please visit https://datacenter.cmqcc.org/mailing.

Low-Risk Cesarean Section Rate: 2012

The Cesarean Section Rate for first-birth, low-risk mothers—also known as the Nulliparous, Term, Singleton Vertex (NTSV) Cesarean Rate is the cesarean section measure chosen by the Joint Commission for their Perinatal Care Measure Set and is endorsed by the National Quality Forum, CMS, and ACOG. Healthy People 2020 has set a target rate of 23.9% for this measure. In 2012, 36% of California hospitals were below the target.

Episiotomy Rate: 2012

The Episiotomy rate is the number of vaginal deliveries—without shoulder dystocia—in which an episiotomy was performed. Lower rates are preferred but there is not yet a national target. This measure is endorsed by the National Quality Forum. In 2012, 40% of California hospitals had rates below 7%.

Vaginal Birth after Cesarean (VBAC) Rate: 2012

The VBAC rate is the number of vaginal deliveries among women that underwent cesarean births in a prior delivery (Agency for HealthCare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Inpatient Quality Indicator 34). Higher rates demonstrate a hospital’s success in both offering and performing VBACs. Hospitals with fewer than 3 VBACs per year (~35% of California hospitals) may have decided that they do not have the resources to perform them safely and will be listed by CalQualityCare.org as “VBACs not routinely offered.” 33% of California hospitals had VBAC rates over 10%.