

Florida's Transparency Initiative 3M Preventable Hospital Readmission Partnership

Scope of the Project

The Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis at the Agency for Health Care Administration is expanding its partnership with 3M Health Information Systems to improve the reporting and calculation of hospital readmission data.

3M Health Systems has selected Florida as a pilot state to test its new Preventable Hospital Readmission Data Module. Florida will be the first state in the national to be reporting readmissions data at this level.

Current Hospital Readmission Reporting

Currently the Florida Center partners with 3M Health Information Systems to provide online reporting of all hospital readmissions by facility. The data is based on a 30 day window of hospital readmissions.

What are Preventable Hospital Readmissions?

A preventable hospital readmission is when a patient is readmitted to the hospital within 15-30 days of the initial hospital discharge for procedure or healing complications.

The new *Preventable Hospital Readmission* reporting program will exclude hospital visits unrelated to the initial hospitalization. For instance hospitalization as a result of accidental injury (i.e. automobile accident) or elective surgery (i.e. plastic surgery) within the 15-30 day window will not be included.

The program will report readmissions rates by procedure to identify patients who are at high risk of hospital readmission.

The Value of tracking Preventable Hospital Readmissions

Preventable hospital readmission data will provide valuable patient data to improve the quality of patient care and make the system more efficient. Preventable hospital readmissions highlight three potential areas of patient care that may need improvement:

- Patient care during initial hospitalization;
- Communications problems during discharge (clinical or administrative); and
- Coordination of patient care after hospital discharge.

Through the new 3M hospital readmissions tracking program the Agency will give clinicians and hospital administrators insight into which procedures or subset of patients are commonly readmitted to the hospital. With the data hospitals can design a better patient care system to decrease hospital readmissions.

Reporting Preventable Hospital Readmissions

The Agency is committed to reporting data that is meaningful to consumers and health care industries. The Florida Center plans to report preventable hospital readmissions online by the end of 2007. The data will be shared with the hospitals prior to being uploaded onto the website. This new project has the potential to improve hospital inpatient care and decrease some unnecessary cost in the health care system. For more information about this exciting project contact the Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis at (850) 922-5771.