

**HealthSystems of Mississippi**  
**INPATIENT ACUTE CARE QUALITY SCREENS**

SCREEN	APPLICATION OF SCREEN	EXAMPLE
Q1. Apparently did not obtain pertinent history and/or findings from examination.	This screen applies when there is a failure to provide an accurate history or a failure to include information obtained by the performance of a physical exam.	A patient with complaints of recurrent dizziness for whom the physician did not note previous medications as part of the history or an adequate neurological exam as part of the physical.
Q2. Apparently did not make appropriate diagnosis and/or assessment.	This screen applies when there is a failure to perform an appropriate assessment to establish an accurate diagnosis.	<p>A patient with history of recent total hip surgery who presents with chest pain and SOB not assessed for possibility of pulmonary embolus with resultant delay in diagnosis.</p> <p>A patient with fever, elevated WBC, redness, swelling of ankle initially treated with anti-inflammatory medications. Antibiotics not initiated until patient subsequently develops a severe cellulitis.</p>
Q3. Apparently did not establish an appropriate treatment plan for a defined problem or diagnosis which prompted this episode of care.	This screen is used for lack of organized, complete, appropriate diagnostic and treatment plans related to the condition for which the patient is admitted.	A patient admitted for pneumonia who is not given IV antibiotics, or a suicidal patient in whom suicidal precautions were not initiated.
Q4. Apparently did not carry out an established treatment plan in a competent and/or timely manner (e.g. omissions, errors of technique, unsafe environment).	This screen applies when there is a failure to take necessary precautions; lack of appropriate equipment maintenance; medication errors, technical and/or procedural errors; failure to follow physician's orders; delayed completion or reporting of studies.	<p>A patient at high risk for falls for whom fall precautions are not instituted and the patient suffers an injury from a fall.</p> <p>Patient with suspected CVA in whom CT scan/MRI was performed but not in a timely manner, or a physician orders medication that is contraindicated according to patient's history.</p>
Q5. Apparently did not appropriately assess and/or act on changes in clinical, mental, or other status.	This screen applies when there is a failure to recognize clinical changes which occur in the patient's condition, or if the clinical changes are noted but not acted on.	<p>A patient whose new finding of asthma is not evaluated or treated, or a patient who is on the ventilator and NPO for several days is not given nutritional supplement (tube feeding or hyperalimentation).</p> <p>Nursing staff does not inform physician of complaint of calf tenderness and sudden onset of SOB in a postoperative patient.</p>
Q6. Apparently did not appropriately assess and/or act on laboratory tests or imaging study results.	This screen is used for a failure to provide ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the patient's laboratory or imaging studies by failing to evaluate and/or act on diagnostic studies.	<p>A patient who is continued on antibiotic therapy after the organism is found to be resistant, or a patient with an abnormally elevated PT/INR is continued on warfarin.</p> <p>Urinalysis indicative of a urinary tract infection not addressed.</p>

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Q7. Apparently did not establish adequate clinical justification for a procedure which carries patient risk.	This screen is used for failure to document accepted indications for a procedure.	A patient whose clinical information does not substantiate the need for a hysterectomy.
Q8. Apparently did not perform a procedure that was indicated (other than lab or imaging).	This screen is used for failure to perform a medically necessary procedure that is indicated by the patient's condition.	A patient demonstrating hemodynamic instability who is not placed on intra-arterial monitoring.
Q9. Apparently did not obtain appropriate laboratory tests and/or imaging studies	This screen is used for failure to order diagnostic (lab and/or imaging) studies that are deemed appropriate for the patient's condition.	Chest x-ray not obtained in a patient presenting with chest pain.
Q10. Apparently did not develop and initiate appropriate discharge, follow-up, and/or rehabilitation plans.	This screen is used for lack of follow-up arrangements or plans for conditions continuing to require treatment and/or monitoring prior to or following discharge; failure to develop a plan that reflects an appropriate transition of care; failure to identify additional needed resources; failure to provide appropriate teaching; failure to transmit pertinent information.	<p>A patient with urinary tract infection still present on discharge who is not continued on antibiotic therapy post-hospitalization.</p> <p>Lack of adequate instruction regarding discharge medications, or a newly diagnosed insulin dependent diabetic with no dietary instructions prior to discharge.</p> <p>Patient with wound care needs is discharged to self care without instruction on dressing changes and access to supplies.</p>
Q11. Apparently did not demonstrate that patient was ready for discharge.	This screen applies when there is a failure to assure that the patient is stable enough for discharge to the setting into which the patient is being discharged.	A patient with a temperature of 102 is discharged by the facility.
Q12. Apparently did not provide appropriate personnel and/or resources.	This screen is used for lack of sufficient staff to handle patient load; lack of credentialed staff for provision of offered services; equipment unavailable to carry out treatment plan.	<p>Lack of appropriate care resulted in the patient developing a nosocomial infection, decubitus ulcer, pneumonia.</p> <p>Delay in application of Buck's traction due to a lack of supplies or personnel trained in traction set-up.</p> <p>Significant delay in administration of an antibiotic because of inability to obtain medication from pharmacy.</p>
Q13. Apparently did not order appropriate specialty consultation.	This screen applies in those cases in which specialty consultation necessary to adequately assess and treat a patient was not ordered.	A patient in deteriorating condition is being treated medically for an obstructed bowel and surgical consultation was not requested.
Q14. Apparently the specialty consultation process was not completed in a timely manner.	This screen is used when a specialty consultation is not ordered in a timely manner or is not completed in a timely manner.	A patient is admitted for seizure or convulsions of unknown origin. The family physician orders an emergency consult but the neurologist does not respond for 24 hours. Or, the family physician delays seeking consultation which results in the patient not receiving appropriate treatment.

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<p>Q15. Apparently an unscheduled return to surgery for same condition as previous surgery, or to correct an operative problem.</p>	<p>This screen is applied when the patient has to return to surgery following a previous surgery because of a post-op wound infection, or for other unexpected reasons.</p>	<p>Patient returns to OR after prior abdominal surgery due to sponge left in place (erroneous count).</p> <p>Patient returns to OR for bleeding due to inadvertent injury to another organ.</p> <p>Patient who underwent a clean-contaminated procedure without antibiotic prophylaxis subsequently develops surgical site infection.</p>