NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

# NICE indicator guidance

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## Indicator CCG79

Readmission rates for surgical site infections within 30 days of discharge from surgery.

## Indicator type

Clinical commissioning group indicator.

## Rationale

Surgical site infections are associated with considerable morbidity. Many of these infections take time to develop and may not become apparent until after the patient has been discharged from hospital – a problem exacerbated by the increasing trend towards shorter postoperative hospital stays and day surgery. In some cases this leads to readmission to hospital. This indicator aims to identify readmission rates for surgical site infections to aid local response to healthcare-associated infections.

## Source guidance

[Healthcare-associated infections: prevention and control](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph36). [NICE guideline PH36](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph36) (2011), quality improvement statement 3 and evidence of achievement 6.

## Specification

Numerator: The number of admissions in the denominator with a record of a readmission within 30 days of discharge, with a primary diagnosis of surgical site infection.

Denominator: The number of admissions to hospital where a surgical procedure is performed.

Calculation: (Numerator/denominator)\*100

Exclusions: None.

Data source: [Hospital episode statistics (HES) admitted patient care (APC)](https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-tools-and-services/data-services/hospital-episode-statistics)

Minimum population: The indicator would be appropriate to assess performance of individual CCGs.

## Further information

This is NICE indicator guidance, which is part of the [NICE menu of indicators](https://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/index). This document does not represent formal NICE guidance.