**Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratio (HSMR)**

**Definition:** The hospital standardized mortality ratio (HSMR) compares a hospital’s mortality (death) rate with the overall average rate. This important measurement provides the hospital with information that assists with identifying areas for improvement. When tracked over time, the HSMR indicates how successful the hospital is in reducing deaths and improving care.

**HSMR Calculation:**

HSMR is calculated as a ratio of the actual number of deaths to the expected number of deaths among patients in acute care hospitals. An HSMR of 100 indicates there is no difference between the hospital’s mortality rate and the overall average rate. Therefore a rate greater than 100 means the hospital’s mortality rate is higher than the overall average and a rate lower than 100 means the hospital’s mortality rate is lower than the overall average.

**Source:** Canadian Institute Health Information – Discharge Abstract Database (DAD)

**Benchmark Source:** Canadian Institute Health Information (CIHI)

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![Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratio (HSMR)](chart)

Prepared by: Decision Support