



PEPPER Sessions Chapter 5 Top Critical Access Hospital

During this session, I'm going to review the top DRG report that's found in the PEPPER for long-term critical access hospitals.

The top DRG report in the *Critical Access Hospital PEPPER* identifies the top DRGs for the hospital by the number of discharges that end in the most recent fiscal year. And in this report, you will see the total number of discharges for each of those DRGs, the proportion of discharges for the DRG to total discharges, and the average length of stay for the Critical Access Hospitals for those DRGs. I do want to stress that this is a supplemental report that doesn't have any impact on outlier status or risk for improper payment.

There is also a report in the PEPPER that summarizes the same type of information at the jurisdiction level. So it will identify for all Critical Access Hospitals in that jurisdiction, the top DRGs, again, by number of discharges in the most recent fiscal year. And that will include the same data element as the Critical Access Hospital-specific report, as well as the jurisdiction and the national average length of stay for those DRGs. So let's take a quick look.

So this is one of the top reports. This is the top DRGs report in the *Critical Access Hospital PEPPER*. And you will find this on the worksheet tab that's labeled top DRGs. In this report for the most recent four quarters, it will identify the DRG, the DRG description, the total number of discharges for each DRG in the most recent four quarters, the proportion of discharges for each DRG to total discharges, and the hospital's average length of stay for that DRG.

Now this report will include up to 20 DRGs. There have to be at least 11 discharges for the DRG, in order for the DRG to be identified or listed on this report. It is possible that some hospitals will not have 20 DRGs that display on this report, depending on the volume of discharges for their DRG.

And then on the jurisdiction top DRGs tab is the same type of information summarized again at the jurisdiction level. This is the MAC jurisdiction. And we will see the total discharges for the DRGs, the proportion of discharges for each DRG to total discharges, the jurisdiction's average length of stay for the DRG, and then the national average length of stay. And this information might be helpful if you're trying to compare your hospital's specific information to the information that's at the jurisdiction and national level.