



PEPPER Sessions Chapter 5

Top Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities

During this session, I'm going to review the Top Case Mix Groups Report, and the Average Length of Stay by CMG Tier and Discharge Destination Report, which are both found in the PEPPER for Inpatient Rehab Facilities. The Top Case Mix Groups Report identifies the top case mix group, or CMGs at the IRF, by number of discharges that end in the most recent fiscal year. And we also identify the number of discharges for that case mix group, the proportion of discharges for the CMG to total discharges, as well as the IRFs average length of stay for the CMG. Now this is a supplemental report. It doesn't have any impact on outlier status within the PEPPER, or risk for improper payments.

We also include a jurisdiction-level top CMGs report, which include the same data elements as the hospital-specific report but for all IRFs in the nation, jurisdiction, and national average lengths of stay. Provided primarily for comparison purposes. We also include an aggregate report at the jurisdiction level that identifies the top CMGs for all IRFs in the MAC jurisdiction. And this report includes the same data elements as the IRF specific report, adding on the jurisdiction and the national average length of stay for the top case mix group.

There is also a report identifying the average length of stay by case mix group tier and discharge destination. And this report displays the number of discharges by CMG tier. So that would be no comorbidity, low comorbidity, medium comorbidity, or high comorbidity. And also discharge destination in four categories, home with home health, home, transfer to SNF, transfer to short term acute care hospitals, and then other. We include the average length of stay for each of these categories. And again, this is a supplemental report which doesn't have any impact on risk for improper payments. It's mainly for your internal use only.

And similarly, we have a jurisdiction level report that includes the same types of data elements at the jurisdiction level. It includes the jurisdiction and national average length of stay for the CMG tiers and discharge destination. So let's look at a sample report in an *IRF PEPPER*.

So this is a sample PEPPER. And we are on the Top CMGs Tab. And this is where we will find the top case mix groups for the IRF for the most recent four quarters, the most recent fiscal year. And this is sorted in order — in descending order by the total number of discharges per case mix group. So you'll see we have the case mix group identified here, the description, the total discharges, the proportion of live discharges for each CMG to total discharges, and then the IRF's average length of stay for that CMG.

Scroll down a little bit. You can see that we have room on this report for up to 20 case mix groups. We are limited to displaying the case mix groups as long as they have 11 discharges in the most recent fiscal year. So if there are other CMGs that have fewer than 11 discharges, those will not be identified on this report here. We identify, for the top case mix groups, some summary information here. And then for all CMGs, the average length of stay. So this would be the overall average length of stay for the IRF.

On the Jurisdiction Top CMGs tab, we have the same type of information for all IRFs in the MAC jurisdiction. Here we identify, not only the total discharges and the proportion of total discharges made

up by that case mix group, but also the jurisdiction average length of stay, and the national average length of stay. And so some IRFs might find this type of information helpful for comparative purposes.

So let's click on the Tier Level Report. And this report has two sections. The top section here identifies, for each CMG tier level, the total number of discharges, the proportion of all discharges, the IRF's average length of stay, and the jurisdiction average length of stay. And this section of the report is sorted in descending order by the number of discharges. So you can see how many no comorbidities, low comorbidities, high comorbidities, and medium comorbidity CMG tiers your IRF had over the most recent fiscal year. And then here would be the total information, summary level information.

The second part of the report identifies discharge destinations. So we have home with home health in this particular PEPPER, transfer to short term, home, and transfer to skilled nursing facility. And again, these categories will display as long as there are at least 11 discharges in that category. So we identify the total number of discharges, the proportion of all discharges, the IRFs average length of stay, and the jurisdiction's average length of stay. Below the report we do have some explanatory notes that identify how we've categorized the discharge destination using the patient discharge status code.

And then we have, on the Jurisdiction Tier Level Tab, the same type of information that is at the jurisdiction level. So the number of discharges for each tier level, proportion of all discharges, the jurisdiction average length of stay, and the national average length of stay. Again, these are provided for comparative purposes, and don't have any bearing on your risk status for improper payment.