

Illinois EMS for Children Quality Improvement and Indicator Monitoring Report

Title of Project: **Respiratory Symptoms Assessment**
 Date of Report: January 10, 2007
 EMSC Region: Region 5
 Facility: All Participating Facilities in the Regional CQI Effort

1. Opportunity / Issue / Problem Identification (PLAN)

- Opportunity: Assessment of respiratory symptoms in the ED
- Problem: Less than adequate reassessment of breath sounds (37%), respiratory rate (63%), and SpO₂ (57%)
- Goals: Improved reassessment

2. Most Likely Causes

- Lack of staff awareness of expectations
- Lack of existing guidelines, protocols
- Lack of pediatric reassessment knowledge

3. Solution(s) Implemented (DO)

- Educational presentations
- Support of leadership teams
- Collaboration amongst CQI liaisons

4. Data Elements Collected for Evaluation

- Age
- Weight
- Initial assessment documented
- Reassessment documented
- Each hospital evaluates 30 charts per quarter for pediatric patients presenting with any form of respiratory symptoms such as cough, congestion, wheezing, trouble breathing, asthma, etc.

5. Results and Data Analysis (STUDY)

- Reassessment of breath sounds: 28% improvement
- Reassessment of respiratory rate: 30% improvement
- Reassessment of SpO₂: 21% improvement

6. Conclusions and Recommendations (ACT)

- Conclusion: The emergency departments in Illinois EMSC Region 5 have shown progress toward the goals of improving reassessment for children presenting with respiratory symptoms. This improvement follows educational efforts. This improvement follows educational efforts.
- Recommendations: Continue on-going efforts to maintain positive clinical outcomes in pediatric respiratory symptom reassessment. Attempt to further identify barriers. On-going data analysis.

Region 5 EMSC CQI – Respiratory Symptoms Assessment
Regional Totals for 2005

Note: Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

