



DRAFT - QUALITY IMPROVEMENT MEASURE

Head and Neck Reconstruction Surgery: Free Flap Failure Rate

Measure Description:

Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older who had a free flap failure 30-days after they underwent head and neck reconstructive surgery.

Instructions:

This measure is to be submitted **each time** a patient underwent a head and neck reconstructive surgical procedure during the performance period. This measure may be submitted by clinicians based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

Denominator:

Patients aged 18 years and older who underwent microvascular free tissue transfer (free flap reconstruction) for head and neck defects following:

- Cancer resection
- Trauma
- Congenital abnormalities

Denominator Exclusion:

- Patients undergoing local or pedicled flap reconstruction
- Patients with DNR/DNI status at time of surgery
- Patients receiving palliative or non-curative intent surgery

Denominator Exceptions:

None

Numerator:

Number of patients who experienced free flap failure within 30-days after surgery. Free flap failure is defined as:

1. Total flap loss requiring revision surgery or salvage procedure.
2. Partial flap necrosis requiring additional interventions.
3. Vascular thrombosis leading to flap loss.

INVERSE MEASURE - A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control. The "Performance Not Met" numerator option for this measure is the representation of the

Empowering otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons to deliver the best patient care

better clinical quality or control. Submitting that numerator option will produce a performance rate that trends closer to 0%, as quality increases. For inverse measures, a rate of 100% means all of the denominator eligible patients did not receive the appropriate care or were not in proper control.

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