

Pneumonia

The information shows how often Touchette Regional Hospital provided recommended treatment for patients with pneumonia.

Pneumonia is an infection or inflammation that fills the lungs with fluids, lowering the oxygen level in the blood. Symptoms of pneumonia can include fever, feeling tired, difficulty breathing or being short of breath, chills, cough, and chest pain.

Data is for April 2010 – March 2011

Measures: Higher % is Better	Our Performance	National Average	State Average
Pneumococcal vaccination given why is it important? A pneumonia (pneumococcal) shot can help prevent pneumonia in the future, even for patients who have been hospitalized for pneumonia	81%	94%	94%
Initial blood cultures prior to first hospital dose of antibiotics why is it important? A blood culture test tells what kind of medicine will work best to treat your pneumonia.	96%	96%	97%
Smoking Cessation advice or counseling why is it important? Smoking is linked to pneumonia. Quitting may help prevent you from getting pneumonia again.	100%	98%	98%
Initial antibiotics given within 6 hours of arrival why is it important? Timely use of antibiotics can improve the treatment of pneumonia caused by bacteria.	91%	96%	96%
Most appropriate antibiotic given why is it important? Antibiotics are medicines that treat infection and each one is different. Physicians should choose the antibiotics that best treat the infection type for each pneumonia patient.	100%	94%	92%
Influenza vaccination given why is it important? Flu shots reduce the risk of influenza, a serious and sometimes deadly lung infection that can spread quickly. Hospitals should check to make sure that pneumonia patients, particularly those who are age 50 or older, get a flu shot during flu season to protect them from another lung infection and to help prevent the spread of	77%	93%	93%

influenza.			
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