

Clinical Measures

Heart Attack

This information shows how often Touchette Regional Hospital provided the recommended treatment for patients with Heart Attack.

A heart attack also called an acute myocardial infarction (AMI), occurs when the arteries leading to the heart becomes blocked and the heart does not receive enough oxygen and nutrients from the blood. The part of the heart muscle that is not receiving enough blood may become damaged or die.

Data is for April 2010 – March 2011

Measures: Higher % is Better unless otherwise noted	Our Performance	National Average	State Average
<p>Average number of minutes before outpatients with chest pain or possible heart attack who needed specialized care were transferred to another hospital (lower number of minutes is better)</p> <p><u>why is it important?</u> If a hospital does not have the facilities to provide specialized heart attack care, it transfers patients with possible heart attack to another hospital that can give them this care.</p>	126	60 min	56 min
<p>Average number of minutes before outpatients with chest pain or possible heart attack got an EKG (lower number of minutes is better)</p> <p><u>why is it important?</u> EKG stands for electrocardiogram. An EKG is a test that can help doctors know whether patients are having a heart attack. Standards of care say that patients with chest pain or a possible heart attack should have an EKG upon arrival, preferably within 10 minutes.</p>	24 min	8 min	7 min
<p>Outpatients with chest pain or possible heart attack who got drugs to break up blood clots within 30 minutes of arrival.</p> <p><u>why is it important?</u> Blood clots can cause heart attacks. Certain patients having a heart attack should get a “clot busting” drug to help break up the blood clots and improve blood flow to the heart. Standards of care say that a clot busting drug should be given within 30 minutes of arrival at the hospital.</p>	NA*	57%	40%
<p>Outpatients with chest pain or possible heart attack who got aspirin within 24 hours of arrival.</p> <p><u>why is it important?</u> Blood clots can cause heart attacks. For many patients having a heart attack, taking aspirin soon after symptoms of a heart attack begin may help break up a clot and make the heart attack less</p>	73%	96%	95%

severe.			
Aspirin on arrival why is it important? Aspirin can help keep blood clots from forming & dissolve blood clots that can cause heart attacks	88%	99%	99%
Aspirin at discharge why is it important? Taking aspirin may help prevent further heart attacks.	100%	99%	99%
ACE Inhibitor or ARB for left ventricular systolic dysfunction why is it important? ACE Inhibitors & ARBs are medicines used to treat heart attacks, heart failure or a decreased function of the heart	100%	96%	97%
Smoking Cessation advice or counseling why is it important? Smoking is linked to heart attacks. Quitting may help prevent another heart attack.	100%	100%	100%
Beta Blocker at discharge why is it important? Beta blockers are a type of medicine used to lower blood pressure, treat chest pain (angina) and heart failure, and to help prevent a heart attack.	100%	98%	99%
Fibrinolytic medication within 30 minutes of arrival why is it important? Blood clots can cause heart attacks. Doctors may give this medicine, or perform a procedure to open the blockage, and in some cases, may do both.	NA*	58%	75%
PCI within 90 minutes of arrival why is it important? The procedure called Percutaneous Coronary Interventions (PCI) are among those that are the most effective for opening blocked blood vessels that cause heart attacks. Doctors may perform PCI, or give medicine to open the blockage, and in some cases, may do both.	NA*	91%	92%
Statin at Discharge (January 2011-March 2011) why is it important? Statins are drugs used to lower cholesterol. Cholesterol is a fat (also called a lipid) that your body needs to work properly. Cholesterol levels that are too high can increase your chance of getting heart disease, stroke, and other problems. For patients who had a heart attack and have high cholesterol, taking Statins can lower the	100%	97%	97%

chance of having another heart attack or die.			
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* NA – Either Touchette Regional Hospital does not provide the service or there were less than 25 cases reported.