Truven Analytics Top 15 Health Systems Ranking 2016

Methodology

The Truven Health 15 Top Health Systems ranking aggregates individual hospital measures into system-wide measures of health care quality, and ranks their long-term performance improvement trends. Truven's ranking is released annually in April, and divides health systems into three comparison groups based on total operating expense. Large systems have total operating expenses greater than $1.75 billion, small systems have a total operating expense less than $750 million, and medium systems have a total operating expense between the two groups. There are approximately 100 to 125 health systems in each group.

Within each group, Truven chooses the top five health systems by aggregating hospital-level patient data into a single system-level data set, and then calculates scores for the nine metrics categories below. Data comes from CMS Hospital Compare and Medicare Provider and Analysis Review (MEDPAR datasets.

After calculating a score for each metric category, Truven uses the weights listed in the table below to combine scores in each category into an overall system rank. The top five systems in each group (small, medium, or large) are then ranked in the top 15 health systems list.   For more specifics about the Truven Top 15 Health Systems Ranking methodology, click here.

Categories of Metrics Used to Calculate the Truven Analytics Top 15 Health System Rankings

Category	Category Weight	Examples of Included Metrics	Number of Metrics
Inpatient Outcomes	22%	Risk-adjusted inpatient mortality index[1] (11% of total score) Risk-adjusted complications index[2] (11% of total)	2
Process of Care	11%	Prophylactic treatment for thromboembolisms is given to stroke patients and others when indicated	9
Extended Outcomes	22%	30-day mortality rate for heart attacks 30-day readmissions rate for heart attack	11
Efficiency	33%	Severity-adjusted length of stay[3] (11% of total score) Medicare spend per beneficiary[4] (11% of total score) Time from emergency department arrival to departure	6
Patient Experience	11%	Patient's rating of the hospital overall; one question from HCAHPS[5]	1

1) This mortality index is the aggregate number of actual in-hospital deaths compared to the deaths expected by Truven's proprietary morality risk assessment mode.
2) This complications index is the aggregate number of actual complications compared to the deaths expected by Truven's proprietary complications risk assessment model.
3) Length of stay adjustment compares the total length of stay compared to the length Truven expects based on a patient's diagnosis at the point of admission.
4) Medicare spend per beneficiary is the cost of care per Medicare patient. Care episode begins three days pre-admission, continues through the treatment period, and ends 30 days post-admission.
5) HCAHPS is the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems survey.

Truven Health Analytics., "Truven Top 15 Health Systems Study, 2016." (2016); Physician Executive Council interviews and analysis.

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