



MROQC Policy on the Handling of Low Site Case Numbers for Quality Measures

Purpose of the Handling of Low Site Case Numbers for Quality Measures policy: To guide scoring when a site has 5 or less cases to score MROQC quality measure (s). Our goal is to include these sites while not penalizing them for the low N.

Policy: When a center has 5 or less cases* to score for a quality measure, we will use an upper confidence limit rather than the observed number or proportion of patients meeting the target. Specifically, we will conclude the target is met if the upper bound of 1-sided 80% confidence interval is greater than the target.

*If a site has zero patients for a measure, the measure will be removed from the score total as a confidence interval cannot be assessed.

Example: Below is a table giving the upper bound of 1-sided 80% confidence intervals for N of 5.

		Total Number of Patients				
		1	2	3	4	5
Number of Patients Meeting Metric	1	100%	76%	57%	46%	38%
	2		100%	84%	69%	59%
	3			100%	88%	76%
	4				100%	91%
	5					100%

As an example, if the goal for a quality metric was 75% and a site enrolled 5 patients of which 3 met the quality measure, the observed proportion is 60% and we would have concluded that the site did not meet the goal. However, from the table above, for 3/5 patients, the upper confidence limit is 76% and we would conclude the site had met the goal.