

Neonatal Intensive Care Outcomes

Technical Specifications

Eligible population: Newborns where gestational age is <35 weeks excluding those with a specified congenital anomaly, missing gestational age, or non-residents of the State.

Numerator statement: For each outcome, number of infants with gestational age between 23-34 weeks with evidence of the outcome during the NICU hospitalization.

Denominator statement: Number of eligible infants with gestational age between 23-34 weeks discharged from the NICU.

Adjusted metric: Adjusting for race, gender, education as a proxy for socioeconomic status, maternal medical conditions, gestational age, and insurance status. Note that these variables may not be available in all datasets. The adjusted results of the outcome rates using all of these variables are described as “Adjusted Model” with maternal medical data, which have the greatest face validity for practicing physicians, based on data that support the idea that each of these variables contributes in some way to a patient’s risk for an outcome. Also, if maternal medical data are not available, we present information on the validity and reliability of the risk-adjusted rates without these variables (Adjusted Model). See supplement for codes to identify NICU outcomes, as well as additional information in Tables 1-5 (see Supporting Documents).