Readmission and returns to acute care following hospitalisation for eight clinical conditions, July 2015 – June 2018

Measures that assess how healthcare affects patient outcomes, such as risk-standardised readmission ratios (RSRR), make a crucial contribution to informing efforts to improve care. They should be looked at alongside other measures and used by clinicians as a tool to prompt discussion and inform the development of quality improvement initiatives.

For this report, readmission includes both readmission following hospital discharge and returns to acute care from non-acute inpatient settings. This allows for fairer comparisons given the range of different arrangements hospitals have in place for nonacute care.

The RSRR differs from other readmission indicators principally because it is risk-adjusted and it takes into account readmission to any, rather than just the same, hospital. This includes readmissions to all hospitals, public and private, and provides a more meaningful and accurate reflection of readmissions, which are attributed to the last discharging hospital. The RSRR calculation takes into account the volume and characteristics of adults treated in each hospital (known as the case mix), as different hospitals provide care to patients who may be more or less likely to require readmission following discharge.

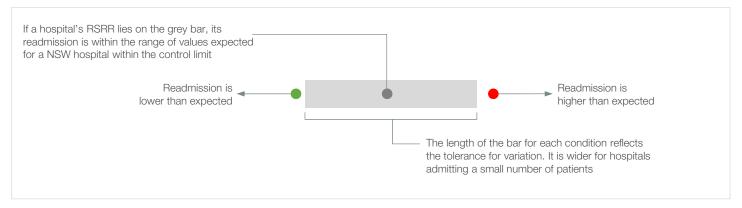
For each hospital, the RSRR compares the 'observed' number of readmissions to any hospital, within 30 days of discharge for a specific clinical condition or within 60 days for specified surgical procedures, with the 'expected' number of readmissions. The expected number of readmissions is calculated based on all adults admitted with that condition to any New South Wales (NSW) hospital.

The RSRR is a ratio. A ratio of less than 1.0 indicates that readmission was lower than expected to that hospital, whereas a ratio higher than 1.0 indicates higher readmission. Small deviations from 1.0 are not considered meaningful. The RSRR is not designed to compare hospitals to each other. Rather it compares each hospital's outcomes with what would have been expected given its particular case mix.

Risk-standardised readmission ratios (RSRRs) for eight clinical conditions

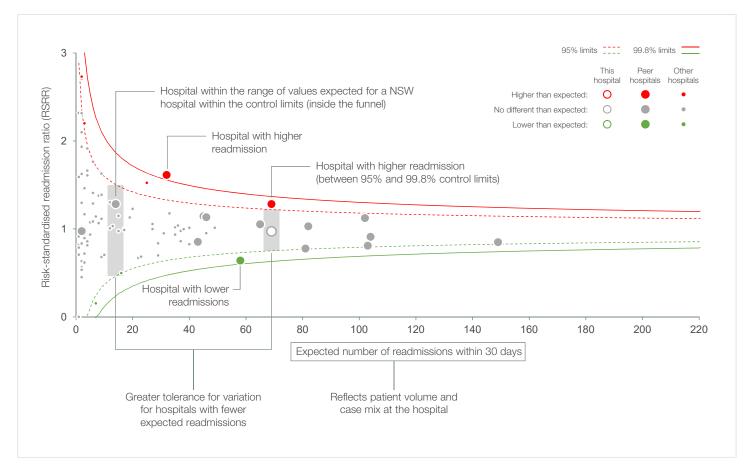
Condition	RSRR		J	luly 201	5 – Jur	e 2018			RSRRs for three-year periods				
		0.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	July 03 – June 06	July 06 – June 09	July 09 – June 12	July 12 – June 15	July 15 – June 18
Acute myocardial infarction	0.57								•	•	•	•	•
lschaemic stroke			< 5	50 index results	hospita s not sh		5,		•	•	•	0	0
Congestive heart failure	0.77			•					•	•	•	•	•
Pneumonia	0.90			•					•	•	•	•	•
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	0.94								•	•	•	•	•
Hip fracture surgery			< 5	50 index results	hospita s not sh		З,		0	0	0	0	0
Total hip replacement			< 5	50 index results	hospita s not sh		З,		0	0	0	0	0
Total knee replacement			< 5	50 index results	hospita s not sh		З,		0	0	0	0	0
Readmiss	ion this period	No 🔴	ver than ex different th ner than ex	ian expect	ed	95%	6 control l	imits	No	atistically sign significant of 0 cases	nificant resul difference	t	·

How to interpret the dashboard



How to interpret a funnel plot

Funnel plots with 95% and 99.8% control limits around the NSW ratio are used to identify outlier hospitals, which are shaded in green or red. Control limits reflect the expected variation in the data.



30-day readmission following hospitalisation for acute myocardial infarction, July 2015 – June 2018

Patient cohort, index hospitalisations^{1,2,3}

This hospital	NSW
54	28,583
5.8	5.2
15	9,182
46	25,477
8	3,106
	This hospital 54 5.8 15 46 8

Age profile for index hospitalisations (years)⁴

				■ 15-44	4 ■45–64	■65–74	■75–84	85+
This hospital		9.3	24.1		63.0			
NSW	4.8		34.2	24.1	21	9	15.0	0
				% index cases				

Patient factors associated with 30-day acute myocardial infarction readmission^{5,6}

Fluid and electrolyte disorders										31.3	
Congestive heart failure									26.8		
Female									26.6		
Cardiac arrhythmia								2	20.8		
Hypertension								18.	6		
Previous AMI admission								14.7			
Diabetes, complicated							9	9.9			
Coagulopathy							7.1				
Deficiency anaemia							5.0				
Peripheral vascular disorder							3.8				
Chronic pulmonary disease							3.4				
Depression							2.2				
Lymphoma					-0	.3					
Solid tumour without metastasis					-0.	7					
Abuse drug/alcohol/psychoses					-1.8						
-50	-4	40	-30	-20	-10	0	10	20	30	40	50
			%	difference	from NSW (i	ndex	cases with	factor record	led)		

30-day readmission following hospitalisation for acute myocardial infarction, July 2015 – June 2018

Location of readmissions ⁷	This hospital	NSW
Total readmissions following index hospitalisation for acute myocardial infarction	7	4,250
Returns to acute care		
Readmitted following hospital discharge		
Readmitted to the same hospital where acute care was completed		
Readmitted to a different hospital		
To an urban public hospital		
To a regional or rural public hospital		
To a private hospital		

Reasons for and time to readmission⁸

- Same principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, ≤7 days post discharge)

Distribution of reasons for readmission

- Condition related to principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, 8–30 days post discharge)
- Potentially related to hospital care (not time sensitive)
- Other conditions

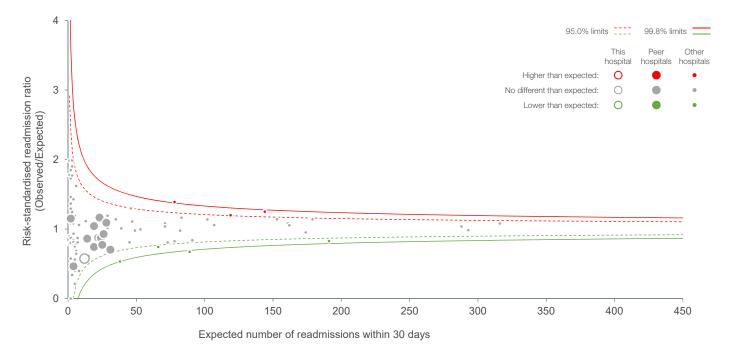
<10 readmissions Detailed results not shown

Number of, and reasons for, readmissions following hospitalisation for acute myocardial infarction, by days post discharge

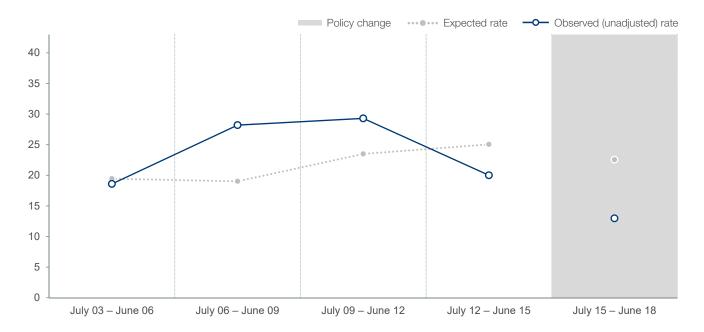
<10 readmissions Detailed results not shown

30-day readmission following hospitalisation for acute myocardial infarction, July 2015 – June 2018

Acute myocardial infarction risk-standardised **readmission ratios** by number of expected readmissions, NSW public hospitals⁹



Acute myocardial infarction, this hospital's expected **readmission rates**¹⁰ and observed (unadjusted) readmission rates, July 2003 – June 2018



Reference notes

- 1. Data refer to patients aged 15+ years who were discharged from this hospital to a non-acute care setting, between July 2015 and June 2018, following an acute hospitalisation with AMI as principal diagnosis (ICD-10-AM codes I21, I22).
- For calculation of average length of stay, index admissions that were transferred in from, or transferred out to, another acute care hospital were excluded. Unreasonably long episodes are trimmed on the basis of the Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) of the episode. The trim point is the third quartile plus 1.5x the interquartile range of all in-scope episodes in each DRG.
- 3. For episodes coded as 'Discharged by hospital' or 'Discharged on leave', patients are considered as discharged home. All other modes of separation are deemed a discharge destination other than home. Where there is a non-acute care admission within one day of any discharge, it is not considered as discharged home regardless of the mode of separation.
- 4. Age at admission date.
- Comorbidities are identified from the hospital discharge records using the Elixhauser comorbidity set (plus dementia) with a one year look-back from the date of the admission. Only those conditions that were found to have a statistically significant impact on readmission (p<0.05) are shown.
- 6. Age was a statistically significant factor in the final model for acute myocardial infarction.
- Readmissions include both returns to acute care from non-acute inpatient settings and readmissions following hospital discharge. Hospitals are classified as urban and regional/rural using the geocoded address of the hospital assigned to Australian Bureau of Statistics statistical areas (SA2) and the Australian remoteness index for areas.
- 8. Reasons for readmission follow the same clinical grouping as used in the previous report *Return to acute care following discharge from hospital, July 2012 June 2015.* Please refer to the previously published *Spotlight on Measurement: Measuring return to acute care following discharge from hospital, 2nd edition,* which outline the specifications used to describe reasons for readmission.
- 9. Results for hospitals with expected readmission <1 are not shown. Hospitals are classified according to the NSW Ministry of Health's peer grouping as at January 2018.
- 10. Readmission rates at an average NSW public hospital with the same case-mix.

Details of analyses are available in *Spotlight on Measurement: Measuring return to acute care following discharge from hospital, 2nd edition* and the *Technical Supplement – Readmission and returns to acute care following hospitalisation for eight clinical conditions, July 2015-June 2018.*

Data source: BHI analyses of Hospital Performance Dataset, NSW Ministry of Health Secure Analytics for Population Health Research and Intelligence.



30-day return to acute care following hospitalisation for ischaemic stroke

30-day readmission following hospitalisation for congestive heart failure, July 2015 – June 2018

Patient cohort, index hospitalisations^{1,2,3}

This hospital	NSW
440	33,686
6.6	6.0
64	2,723
382	29,025
58	4,661
	This hospital 440 6.6 64 382 58

Age profile for index hospitalisations (years)⁴

	_				∎ 15-44	■ 45–64	■65-74	■75–84	85+
This hospital	5.0	13.	4	40.0			41.4		
NSW		10.8	18.9	33.6			34.9)	
				% index cases					

Patient factors associated with 30-day congestive heart failure readmission^{5,6}

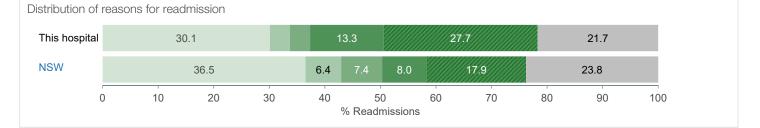
Fluid and electrolyte disorders								28.8	
Chronic pulmonary disease							19.3		
Cardiac arrhythmia						8.2			
Diabetes, complicated						6.4			
Renal failure						4.9			
Previous congestive heart failure admission						4.0			
Deficiency anaemia						3.1			
Coagulopathy	,					2.4			
Metastatic cancer	•				-0.4				
	-40	-30	-20	-10	0	10	20	30	40
			% differe	ence from NS	SW (index c	ases with factor r	ecorded)		

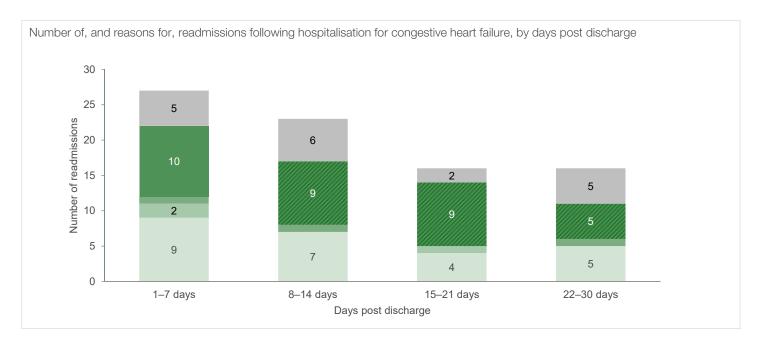
30-day readmission following hospitalisation for congestive heart failure, July 2015 – June 2018

Location of readmissions ⁷	This hospital	NSW
Total readmissions following index hospitalisation for congestive heart failure	82	7,465
Returns to acute care	8	309
Readmitted following hospital discharge	74	7,156
Readmitted to the same hospital where acute care was completed	56	5,843
Readmitted to a different hospital	18	1,313
To an urban public hospital	18	
To a regional or rural public hospital	0	
To a private hospital	0	

Reasons for and time to readmission⁸

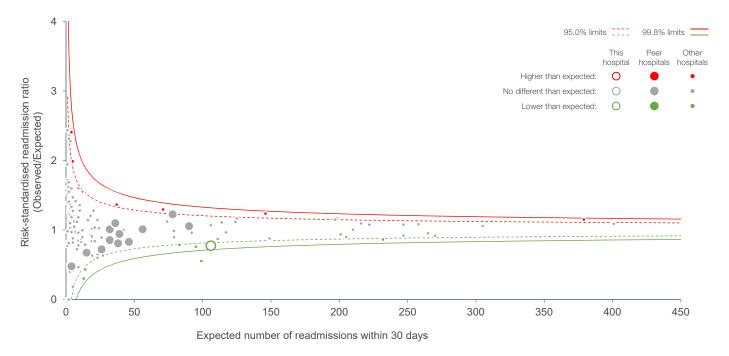
- Same principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, ≤7 days post discharge)
- Condition related to principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, 8–30 days post discharge)
- Potentially related to hospital care (not time sensitive)
- Other conditions



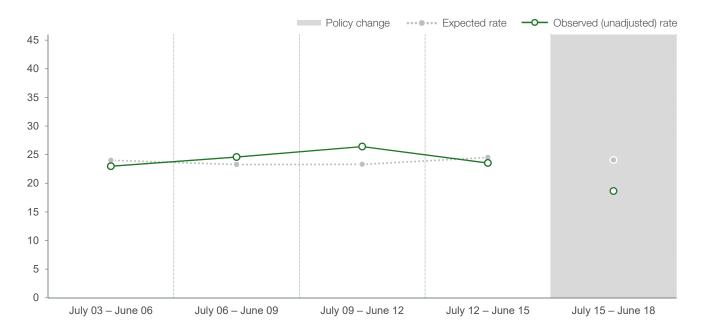


30-day readmission following hospitalisation for congestive heart failure, July 2015 – June 2018

Congestive heart failure risk-standardised **readmission ratios** by number of expected readmissions, NSW public hospitals⁹



Congestive heart failure, this hospital's expected **readmission rates**¹⁰ and observed (unadjusted) readmission rates, July 2003 – June 2018



Reference notes

- 1. Data refer to patients aged 15+ years who were discharged from this hospital to a non-acute care setting, between July 2015 and June 2018, following an acute hospitalisation with congestive heart failure as principal diagnosis (ICD-10-AM codes I11.0, I13.0, I13.2, I50.0, I50.1, I50.9).
- 2. For calculation of average length of stay, index admissions that were transferred in from, or transferred out to, another acute care hospital were excluded. Unreasonably long episodes are trimmed on the basis of the Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) of the episode. The trim point is the third quartile plus 1.5x the interquartile range of all in-scope episodes in each DRG.
- 3. For episodes coded as 'Discharged by hospital' or 'Discharged on leave', patients are considered as discharged home. All other modes of separation are deemed a discharge destination other than home. Where there is a non-acute care admission within one day of any discharge, it is not considered as discharged home regardless of the mode of separation.
- 4. Age at admission date.
- Comorbidities are identified from the hospital discharge records using the Elixhauser comorbidity set (plus dementia) with a one year look-back from the date of the admission. Only those conditions that were found to have a statistically significant impact on readmission (p<0.05) are shown.
- 6. Age was not a statistically significant factor in the final model for congestive heart failure.
- Readmissions include both returns to acute care from non-acute inpatient settings and readmissions following hospital discharge. Hospitals are classified as urban and regional/rural using the geocoded address of the hospital assigned to Australian Bureau of Statistics statistical areas (SA2) and the Australian remoteness index for areas.
- 8. Reasons for readmission follow the same clinical grouping as used in the previous report *Return to acute care following discharge from hospital, July 2012 June 2015.* Please refer to the previously published *Spotlight on Measurement: Measuring return to acute care following discharge from hospital, 2nd edition,* which outline the specifications used to describe reasons for readmission.
- 9. Results for hospitals with expected readmission <1 are not shown. Hospitals are classified according to the NSW Ministry of Health's peer grouping as at January 2018.
- 10. Readmission rates at an average NSW public hospital with the same case-mix.

Details of analyses are available in *Spotlight on Measurement: Measuring return to acute care following discharge from hospital,* 2nd edition and the *Technical Supplement – Readmission and returns to acute care following hospitalisation for eight clinical conditions,* July 2015-June 2018.

Data source: BHI analyses of Hospital Performance Dataset, NSW Ministry of Health Secure Analytics for Population Health Research and Intelligence.

30-day readmission following hospitalisation for pneumonia, July 2015 – June 2018

Patient cohort, index hospitalisations^{1,2,3}

	This hospital	NSW
Total index cases for pneumonia	751	48,855
Average length of stay (days)	5.3	5.1
Patients transferred in from acute care in another hospital	84	3,190
Discharge destination		
Home	678	42,535
Other	73	6,320

Age profile for index hospitalisations (years)⁴

							18 –44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85+
This hospital	4.9		14.7			31.3			;	30.1	
NSW	1	1.1		19.9	19.9		26.1			23.0	
					0/ index						

% index cases

Patient factors associated with 30-day pneumonia readmission^{5,6}

Chronic pulmonary disease	16.3
Fluid and electrolyte disorders	14.8
Cardiac arrhythmia	10.2
Congestive heart failure	8.7
Weight loss	6.4
Previous pneumonia admission	4.4
Female	3.0
Hypertension	2.7
Coagulopathy	2.4
Diabetes, complicated	2.3
Renal failure	1.7
Deficiency anaemia	0.5
Paralysis	0.4
Peripheral vascular disorder	0.4
Depression	0.3
Liver disease	-0.2
Abuse drug/alcohol/psychoses	-0.2
Rheumatoid arthritis/collagen	-0.3
Lymphoma	-0.9
Solid tumour without metastasis	-1.9
Metastatic cancer	-2.1

Performance Profile: Shellharbour Hospital

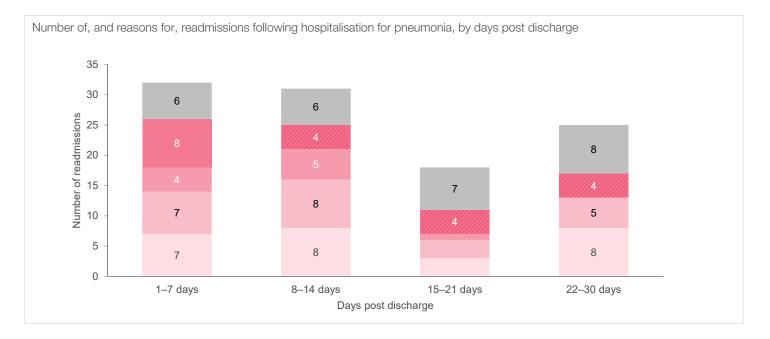
30-day readmission following hospitalisation for pneumonia, July 2015 – June 2018

Location of readmissions ⁷	This hospital	NSW
Total readmissions following index hospitalisation for pneumonia	106	6,704
Returns to acute care	5	325
Readmitted following hospital discharge	101	6,379
Readmitted to the same hospital where acute care was completed	55	5,201
Readmitted to a different hospital	46	1,178
To an urban public hospital	42	
To a regional or rural public hospital	4	
To a private hospital	0	

Reasons for and time to readmission⁸

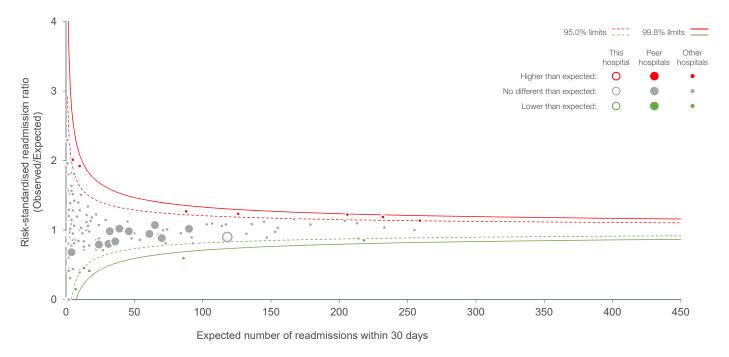
- Same principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, <7 days post discharge)</p>
- Condition related to principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, 8–30 days post discharge)
- Potentially related to hospital care (not time sensitive)
- Other conditions

Distribution of	reasons for	readmis	sion								
This hospital 24.5		This hospital 24.5		2	21.7	9.4	7.6	11.3		25.5	
NSW	19.5			20.0		7.8 7.5	14	.2		31.1	
C	0 1	0	20	30	40	50 % Readmis	60 sions	70	80	90	10

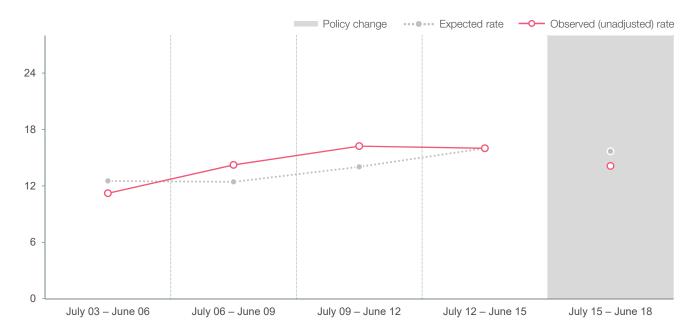


30-day readmission following hospitalisation for pneumonia, July 2015 – June 2018

Pneumonia risk-standardised **readmission ratios** by number of expected readmissions, NSW public hospitals⁹



Pneumonia, this hospital's expected **readmission rates**¹⁰ and observed (unadjusted) readmission rates, July 2003 – June 2018



Reference notes

- 1. Data refer to patients aged 18+ years who were discharged from this hospital to a non-acute care setting, between July 2015 and June 2018, following an acute hospitalisation with pneumonia as principal diagnosis (ICD-10-AM codes J13, J14, J15, J16, J18).
- For calculation of average length of stay, index admissions that were transferred in from, or transferred out to, another acute care hospital were excluded. Unreasonably long episodes are trimmed on the basis of the Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) of the episode. The trim point is the third quartile plus 1.5x the interquartile range of all in-scope episodes in each DRG.
- 3. For episodes coded as 'Discharged by hospital' or 'Discharged on leave', patients are considered as discharged home. All other modes of separation are deemed a discharge destination other than home. Where there is a non-acute care admission within one day of any discharge, it is not considered as discharged home regardless of the mode of separation.
- 4. Age at admission date.
- Comorbidities are identified from the hospital discharge records using the Elixhauser comorbidity set (plus dementia) with a one year look-back from the date of the admission. Only those conditions that were found to have a statistically significant impact on readmission (p<0.05) are shown.
- 6. Age was a statistically significant factor in the final model for pneumonia.
- Readmissions include both returns to acute care from non-acute inpatient settings and readmissions following hospital discharge. Hospitals are classified as urban and regional/rural using the geocoded address of the hospital assigned to Australian Bureau of Statistics statistical areas (SA2) and the Australian remoteness index for areas.
- 8. Reasons for readmission follow the same clinical grouping as used in the previous report *Return to acute care following discharge from hospital, July 2012 June 2015.* Please refer to the previously published *Spotlight on Measurement: Measuring return to acute care following discharge from hospital, 2nd edition,* which outline the specifications used to describe reasons for readmission.
- 9. Results for hospitals with expected readmission <1 are not shown. Hospitals are classified according to the NSW Ministry of Health's peer grouping as at January 2018.
- 10. Readmission rates at an average NSW public hospital with the same case-mix.

Details of analyses are available in *Spotlight on Measurement: Measuring return to acute care following discharge from hospital,* 2nd edition and the *Technical Supplement – Readmission and returns to acute care following hospitalisation for eight clinical conditions,* July 2015-June 2018.

Data source: BHI analyses of Hospital Performance Dataset, NSW Ministry of Health Secure Analytics for Population Health Research and Intelligence.

30-day readmission following hospitalisation for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, July 2015 – June 2018

Patient cohort, index hospitalisations^{1,2,3}

This hospital	NSW
805	48,336
5.4	4.8
77	2,330
758	43,932
47	4,404
	This hospital 805 5.4 77 758 47

Age profile for index hospitalisations (years)⁴

			45-64 65-74	75–84 85+
This hospital	20.0	31.3	33.0	15.7
NSW	21.2	31.7	32.0	15.1
		% index c	ases	

Patient factors associated with 30-day chronic obstructive pulmonary disease readmission^{5,6}

Fluid and electrolyte disorders					14.4	
Congestive heart failure				11.8		
Cardiac arrhythmia				10.5		
Hypertension				9.7		
Weight loss				8.8		
Female				8.6		
Previous COPD admission				6.5		
Diabetes, complicated				3.5		
Abuse drug/alcohol/psychoses				3.1		
Renal failure				2.1		
Deficiency anaemia				1.8		
Peripheral vascular disorder				0.8		
Pulmonary circulation disorders				0.8		
Dementia				0.5		
Depression			-1.2			
Solid tumour without metastasis		-	-2.0			
Diabetes, uncomplicated		-2	2.4			
-30	-20	-10	0	10	20	30
		% difference from NS	SW (index	cases with factor recorded	d)	

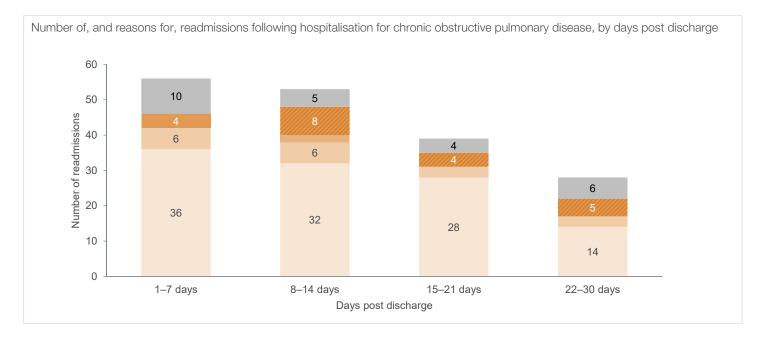
30-day readmission following hospitalisation for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, July 2015 – June 2018

Location of readmissions ⁷	This hospital	NSW
Total readmissions following index hospitalisation for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	176	10,241
Returns to acute care	4	233
Readmitted following hospital discharge	172	10,008
Readmitted to the same hospital where acute care was completed	128	8,472
Readmitted to a different hospital	44	1,536
To an urban public hospital	41	
To a regional or rural public hospital	3	
To a private hospital	0	

Reasons for and time to readmission⁸

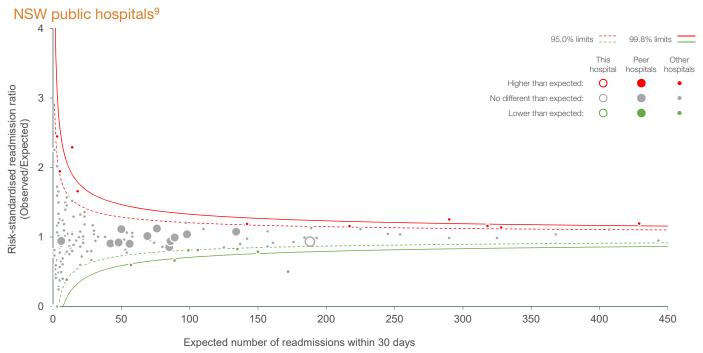
- Same principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, ≤7 days post discharge)
- Condition related to principal diagnosis
- Potentially related to hospital care (time sensitive, 8–30 days post discharge)
- Potentially related to hospital care (not time sensitive)
- Other conditions

Distribution of	reasor	s for readr	mission								
This hospital				62.0				10.6	9.5	14.5	
NSW				54.5			10.3	4.2	9.2	18.3	
(Ő	10	20	30	40 %	50 Readmissio	60 ons	70	80	90	10

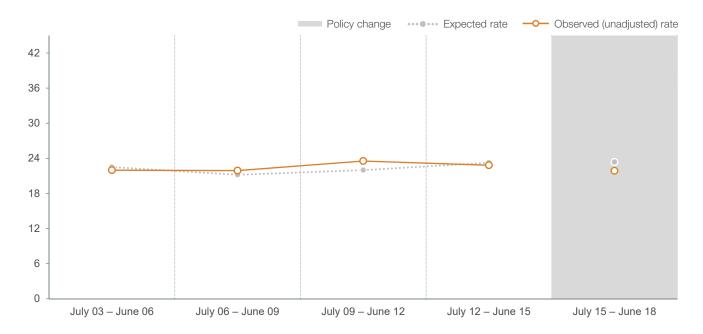


30-day readmission following hospitalisation for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, July 2015 – June 2018

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease risk-standardised **readmission ratios** by number of expected readmissions,



Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, this hospital's expected **readmission rates**¹⁰ and observed (unadjusted) readmission rates, July 2003 – June 2018



Reference notes

- 1. Data refer to patients aged 45+ years who were discharged from this hospital to a non-acute care setting, between July 2015 and June 2018, following an acute hospitalisation with COPD as principal diagnosis (ICD-10-AM code J41, J42, J43, J44, J47, and J20 and J40 if accompanied by J41, J42, J43, J44 and J47 in any secondary diagnoses).
- For calculation of average length of stay, index admissions that were transferred in from, or transferred out to, another acute care hospital were excluded. Unreasonably long episodes are trimmed on the basis of the Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) of the episode. The trim point is the third quartile plus 1.5x the interquartile range of all in-scope episodes in each DRG.
- 3. For episodes coded as 'Discharged by hospital' or 'Discharged on leave', patients are considered as discharged home. All other modes of separation are deemed a discharge destination other than home. Where there is a non-acute care admission within one day of any discharge, it is not considered as discharged home regardless of the mode of separation.
- 4. Age at admission date.
- Comorbidities are identified from the hospital discharge records using the Elixhauser comorbidity set (plus dementia) with a one year look-back from the date of the admission. Only those conditions that were found to have a statistically significant impact on readmission (p<0.05) are shown.
- 6. Age was a statistically significant factor in the final model for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- Readmissions include both returns to acute care from non-acute inpatient settings and readmissions following hospital discharge. Hospitals are classified as urban and regional/rural using the geocoded address of the hospital assigned to Australian Bureau of Statistics statistical areas (SA2) and the Australian remoteness index for areas.
- 8. Reasons for readmission follow the same clinical grouping as used in the previous report *Return to acute care following discharge from hospital, July 2012 June 2015.* Please refer to the previously published *Spotlight on Measurement: Measuring return to acute care following discharge from hospital, 2nd edition,* which outline the specifications used to describe reasons for readmission.
- 9. Results for hospitals with expected readmission <1 are not shown. Hospitals are classified according to the NSW Ministry of Health's peer grouping as at January 2018.
- 10. Readmission rates at an average NSW public hospital with the same case-mix.

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Data source: BHI analyses of Hospital Performance Dataset, NSW Ministry of Health Secure Analytics for Population Health Research and Intelligence.



30-day return to acute care following hospitalisation for hip fracture surgery



60-day return to acute care following hospitalisation for total hip replacement



60-day return to acute care following hospitalisation for total knee replacement