

2020 Opioid Care Honor Roll Methodology: Recognizing California hospitals addressing the opioid epidemic

Methodology:

Between June and October 2020 CHC invited all 330 California adult, acute care hospitals to voluntarily submit their *Opioid Management Hospital Self-Assessment* results to be considered for the 2020 Opioid Care Honor Roll. The *Opioid Management Hospital Self-Assessment* uses 8 questions to measure opioid management across the following 4 domains of care: 1) safe & effective opioid use, 2) identifying and managing patients with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), 3) overdose prevention, and 4) applying cross-cutting opioid management best practices.

Participating hospitals could achieve up to 32 points across 8 questions, with 11 extra credit opportunities for a grand total of 43 possible points. Using the *Opioid Management Hospital Self-Assessment* CHC's Board of Directors identified a relevant threshold to identify honor roll hospitals using a combination of baseline data from the 2019 pilot year and current submission cycle. While extra credit points in measurement and innovation were applied toward achieving the honor roll, the relevant threshold was calculated excluding the extra credit opportunities. In addition, hospitals must score at least one point in each domain to be eligible for the honor roll. The 2020 Opioid Care Honor roll uses two approaches to identify honor roll hospitals.

Superior Performance: The hospital scores at least 27 points out of 32 points ($\geq 75^{\text{th}}$ percentile) and scores at least one point in each of the 4 domains of care.

Excellent Progress: The hospital scores between 21 and 26 points out of 32 points ($\geq 50^{\text{th}}$ percentile and $\leq 74^{\text{th}}$ percentile) and scores at least one point in each of the 4 domains of care.

Results:

Using this approach 58 hospitals achieved the 2020 Opioid Care Honor Roll out of 89 participating hospitals. Twenty-five hospitals met 'Superior Performance' criteria, and 28 additional hospitals met the 'Excellent Progress' criteria. The resulting list was approved by the CHC Technical Advisory Committee and Board of Directors to ensure accuracy and that high performance is indicative of an overall trend.

Conclusion:

CHC acknowledges that 2020 has brought unique challenges to hospitals combatting the opioid epidemic in their communities. Hospitals are fighting, not one but, two epidemics with COVID-19 taking precedence for many. As a result, there has been a rise in opioid drug-related overdoses nationwide.ⁱ

All 89 hospitals participating in the 2020 Opioid Care Honor Roll program are deeply committed to providing appropriate opioid care and treatment for those with OUD in their communities.

Participation in this year's Opioid Care Honor Roll is a signal to California's healthcare community that these hospitals are actively accelerating and strengthening their opioid stewardship programs.

Hospitals achieving 'Superior Performance' have implemented advanced, innovative opioid stewardship strategies across multiple service lines, consistently achieving the highest level of performance across the 4 domains of care as measured by the *Opioid Management Hospital Self-Assessment*. In addition, these hospitals are actively measuring and monitoring performance for the purpose of continued quality improvement.

Hospitals achieving 'Excellent Progress' have taken steps to spread and scale appropriate opioid prescribing guidelines, OUD treatment, and overdose prevention strategies across one or more service lines that reduce the use and risk of opioids for patients who visit emergency rooms, new patients with pain, and patients being discharged to reduce the likelihood of chronic use. These hospitals consistently achieve a Level 2 or 3 across the 4 domains of care as measured by the *Opioid Management Hospital-Self Assessment*.

¹ [Issue brief: Reports of increases in opioid- and other drug-related overdose and other concerns during COVID pandemic. American Medical Association. \(2020\)](#)