

2021 Opioid Care Honor Roll Methodology: Recognizing California hospitals addressing the opioid epidemic

Methodology:

Between January and March 2022, Cal Hospital Compare (CHC) invited all 323 California adult, acute care hospitals to voluntarily submit their *Opioid Management Hospital Self-Assessment* results to be considered for the 2021 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 1 extra credit opportunity for a grand total of 33 possible points. To earn the extra credit point, hospitals could “Hon-roll” or recommend another hospital to complete the assessment that has not previously participated in the Opioid Care Honor Roll program. 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 2020 honor roll results. In addition, hospitals must score at least one point in each domain to be eligible for the honor roll. The 2021 Opioid Care Honor roll uses three 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.

Most Improved: the hospital scores ≥ 5 points on their 2021 results compared to their 2020 results.

Results:

Using this approach 76 hospitals achieved the 2021 Opioid Care Honor Roll out of 105 participating hospitals. Forty-two hospitals met ‘Superior Performance’ criteria, 31 hospitals met the ‘Excellent Progress’ criteria, and 25 hospitals out of 65 eligible hospitals were identified as most improved. 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:

As the aftermath of the COVID pandemic continues to pose challenges to hospitals, CHC acknowledges that addressing the opioid epidemic is a dedicated and collaborative effort and appreciate their ongoing commitment to tackling opioid stewardship in their communities.

All 105 hospitals participating in the 2021 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; regardless of their honor roll designation.

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, overdose prevention strategies, and address stigma 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*.