HOSPITAL USE FOLLOWING SURGERY

**METRIC**
Inpatient admissions or emergency department visits 90 days following surgery

**BACKGROUND**
Potentially preventable complications related to cancer surgery can include, for example, severe pain, infections, bowel obstruction, blood clots, and wound problems. The risk of unplanned hospitalization following surgery may be reduced with an understanding of patient-specific risks for complications and a comprehensive management plan that includes prevention and early intervention when symptoms appear. With the proper mechanisms in place during and after surgery, it is possible to reduce the number of unplanned emergency department visits and hospitalizations.

**POPULATION**
N = 2,285
Inclusion Criteria:
- Diagnosed with colorectal, female breast, prostate, or non-small cell lung cancer
- Diagnosis January 1, 2007 to May 31, 2014
- First primary tumor
- Received surgery within 3 months of diagnosis
- Enrolled in 90 days following surgery

Exclusion Criteria:
- Stage in situ
- Started chemotherapy or radiation therapy in the 90 days following surgery
- Died in the 90 days following surgery

**DEFINITIONS**
- Surgery: Procedures included are specific to the cancer site and do not include operations on the lymphatic system
- ED visit: Care in the emergency department that did not result in an inpatient admission
- Inpatient admission: If the patient is already admitted to the hospital for his or her surgery only subsequent admissions are counted

**RESULTS**

In general, there is consistency in hospital use between cancer sites. Some examples of variation are the higher rates of admission (within 90 days) for breast cancer, and lower rates of admission for prostate cancer.

**INPATIENT ADMISSIONS: 16%**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic</th>
<th>Inpatient Admissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectal</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostate</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ED VISITS: 9%**

**INPATIENT ADMISSIONS BY CLINIC**
Clinic variation in inpatient admissions following surgery ranges from no use at all to use in over 45% of patients.

**ED VISITS BY CLINIC**
Clinic variation in emergency department visits following surgery ranges from no use at all to use in over 35% of patients.