

## Unplanned 30-Day Re-operation After Mastectomy

### National Quality Strategy Domain

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- Patient Safety

### Measure Type

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- Outcome
- Composite

Unplanned re-operation is a composite measure because avoiding re-operation as an outcome is dependent on multiple separate measures of quality such as mastectomy margin status, axillary management and surgical complications. Margin status is dependent on pre-operative imaging accuracy by a radiologist and good communication between the radiologist, breast surgeon and plastic surgeon, especially to identify breast cancer adjacent to skin or the nipple areolar complex. Avoidance of operative complications of ischemic skin necrosis, ischemic flap necrosis, post-operative hemorrhage, and deep surgical site infection are also necessary for one step surgical success.

### Description

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Percent of patients undergoing mastectomy who do not require an unplanned secondary breast or axillary operation within 30 days of the initial procedure.

### Numerator

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Patients undergoing unilateral or bilateral mastectomy as their initial procedure for breast cancer or prophylaxis who do not require an unplanned secondary breast or axillary operation within 30 days of the initial procedure.

### Denominator

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Patients undergoing unilateral or bilateral mastectomy as their initial procedure for breast cancer or prophylaxis.

### Denominator Exclusions

Patients undergoing breast conserving surgery as their initial operation for breast cancer. Patients undergoing central line reservoir IV access procedures within 30 days after initial mastectomy.

## Denominator Exceptions

Patients who undergo a planned “cosmetic” procedure in either breast within 30 days after their initial breast operation, patients who have a contralateral breast re-operation by the plastic surgeon for a complication in a breast not operated on by the breast surgeon, patients with flap ischemia/necrosis (not native skin flap necrosis) that undergo re-operation for debridement of flap or assessment of vascularity or re-vascularization after a tissue transfer reconstructive operation performed by the plastic surgeon, patients with placement of expander or implant who undergo re-operation by plastic surgeon for expander/implant leak or any other prosthetic condition requiring re-operation, patients with a false negative intra-operative sentinel node assessment; i.e. patient underwent immediate intra-operative histologic assessment of SLN with findings of no nodal metastasis but then had post-operative identification of positive SLN necessitating an axillary re-operation.

## Rationale

Unplanned 30-day re-operations contribute to delays in time to adjuvant treatment, additional patient operative risks, increased cost of care, and decreased patient satisfaction. One step surgical success rate is endorsed as a quality measure by the European Union of Breast Cancer specialists (EUSOMA). EUSOMA has endorsed target goals for performance for one step success.

## Date Endorsed

**Initially Endorsed:** Jan 25, 2015

**Revised:** Sep 17, 2020

## - References -

1. Del Turco MR, Ponti A, Bick U, et al. Quality indicators in breast cancer care. *Eur J Cancer*. 2010;46(13):2344-235.