

Emergency Department (ED) Measures

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Objectives

- To identify the Emergency Department efficiency measures for **Inpatient** admissions.
- To demonstrate an understanding of the process of determining median time for this measure set.

Philosophy

- ⦿ Nationwide overcrowding of ED's leads to potential delays in care and patient dissatisfaction.
- ⦿ Reducing the time patients remain in the ED improves access to care and increases quality of care.

The Measures

- 1. Median Time for ED arrival to ED departure (For TJC Participants only)



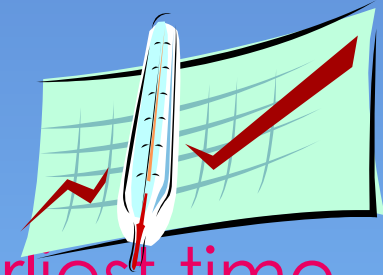
The measures



ED -1

- There are three indicators in this measure set. The first is the overall rate for 1b and 1c.
 - 1b. The overall median time from ED arrival to ED departure for all inpatient admissions.
 - 1c. The median time from the decision to admit to the psychiatric/mental health patient's departure from the ED.

What is measured?



- The ED arrival time used is the earliest time documented in the medical record.
- This could be triage time, registration time, first documented time in the record by anyone including the first vitals documented electronically.

ED Departure Time



The time the patient **physically left** the emergency department is the departure time.

Clarification

1. When more than one acceptable emergency department departure/discharge time is documented the latest time must be used.

ED Departure time cont.

2. The time the discharge order was written cannot be used as it may not represent the actual time of departure.
3. If patient expired in the ED, the time of death is used as the departure time.

ED- 2 Median time for Decision to Admit to ED Departure

- For this indicator the time the decision to admit is collected. This is not the admit order time but the time the practitioner determines that inpatient admission is indicated.
- This measure includes an overall rate, an **Admitted Patient** and a for Psychiatric/Mental Health Patients only.

Examples

- The practitioner must document on the patient record.

The note may read: 1/25/19 11:30 spoke to Dr X who agrees with need to admit.

On order sheet:

1/25/19 12:15 Admit to Inpatient status- ICU
Labs: CBC, Chem 16, in AM
J. Jones MD

The decision to admit time is 11:30

Example Two

- ◎ **1/25/19 12:30 Dr Y has determined that this patient will require inpatient admission. Admission office notified.
M. Black R.N.**

Decision to admit time is 12:30.

Exclusion



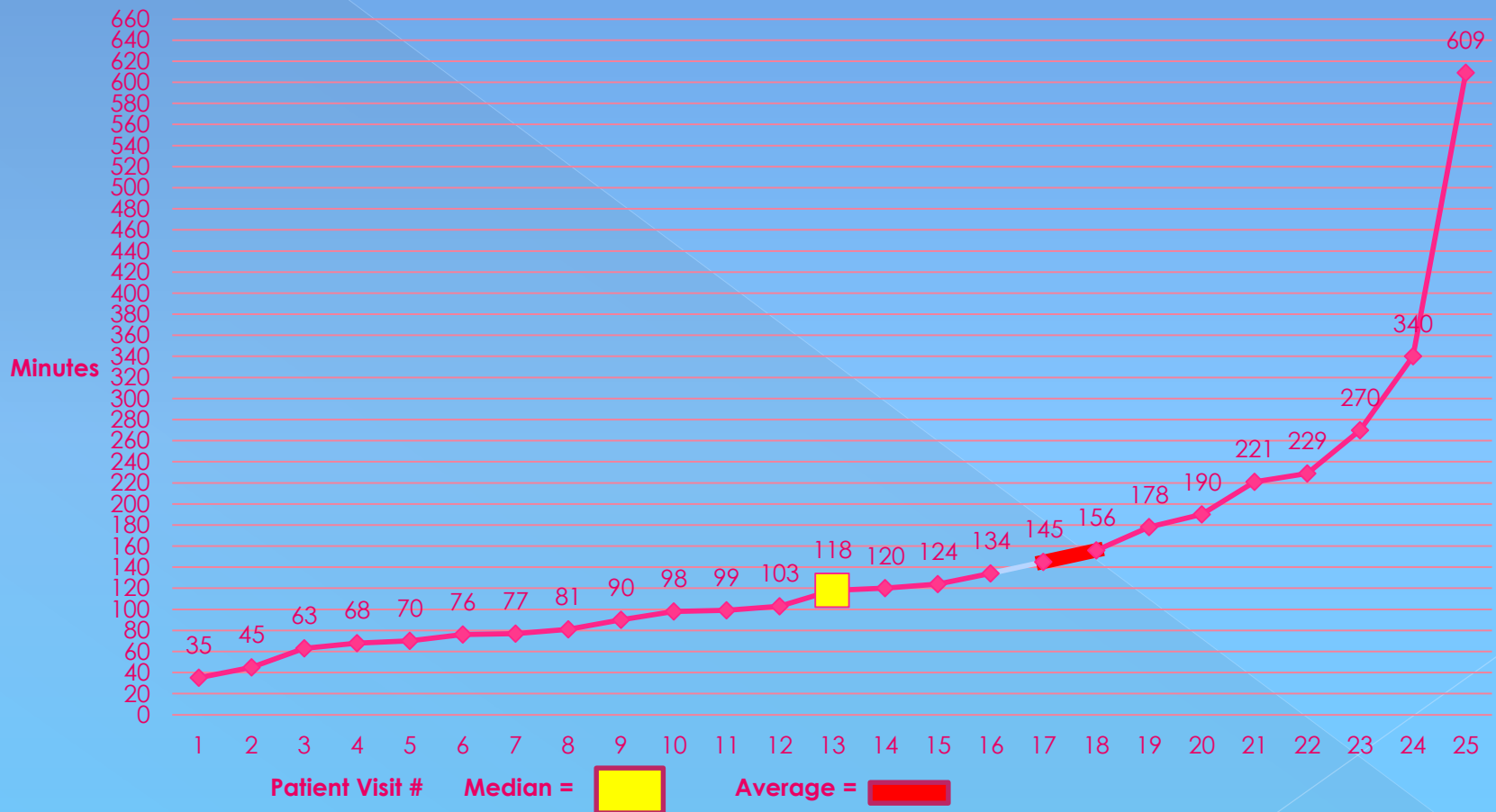
- Any patient who is admitted from the ED but the decision to admit had been determined prior to arrival is not included in this indicator.

Measuring the Median

- ◉ **The median** is the middle in a set of ordered values that are arranged in ascending or descending order.
- ◉ Lets look at an example on the next slide.

There were 45 patients admitted from the ED. Their stay was measured in minutes.

Median time from ED arrival to leaving the ED



Median discussion

- ◉ Using the median time rather than the average time lessens the impact of outliers.
- ◉ The median time for this example is 118 minutes where the average time is 149 minutes.

Test your knowledge

1. The ED arrival time is:
 - A. The triage time
 - B. The registration time
 - C. The earliest time documented in the medical record.

Test your knowledge

2. The time on the order to admit is always used as the decision to admit time.

A. True

B. False

Test your knowledge

3. The median for a group of values is the middle number.

A. True

B. False

Any Questions????