



At or better than target. Continue to monitor.



Within 5% of target. Monitor and take action as appropriate.



Below target by more than 5%. Take action and monitor progress.



No target identified or available.

WHAT IS BEING MEASURED?

The hospital standardized mortality ratio (HSMR) is an overall quality indicator that compares a hospital's mortality rate with the overall national average rate. The HSMR represents a ratio of the number of deaths that actually occurred in hospital relative to the number that would be expected to occur based on the patients treated, once adjusted for factors that affect the risk of death such as age, sex, and length of hospital stay.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

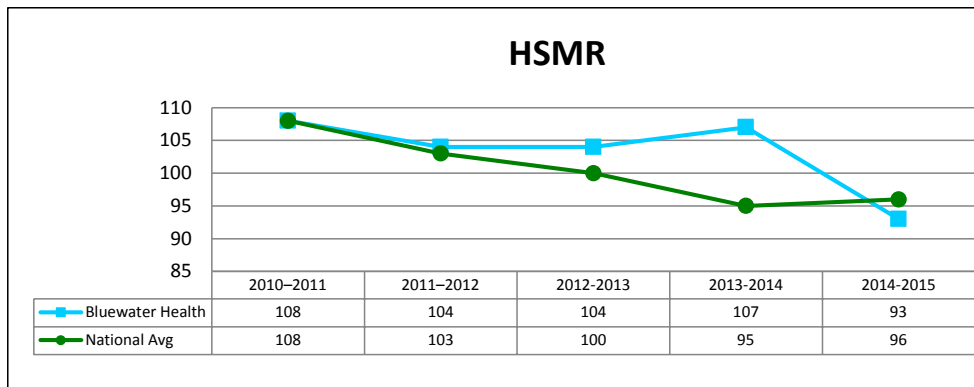
HSMR is a mandatory publicly reported patient safety measure for Ontario hospitals. It is a measure that has been used by many hospitals world-wide to assess and analyze mortality rates and to identify areas for improvement. This measure allows Bluewater Health to track mortality rates over time and monitor progress in providing quality care.

WHAT IS THE TARGET?

Bluewater Health aims to remain below the overall national average rate. An HSMR less than 96 in 2014-2015 indicates that the hospital's mortality rate is lower than the overall national average rate.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Last fiscal year reported, Bluewater Health's HSMR was 93 indicating that our mortality rate is below the national average after all adjustments are made for the types of patients treated and other factors.



Preferred trend/direction



WHAT ACTIONS ARE WE TAKING?

Each year—and throughout the year—we carefully review our hospital's results and identify and work to implement continued improvements. We will continue to work on the following initiatives as they share the common objective of making care at Bluewater Health even safer:

- Performance +Transformation -work that focuses on improving the safety and reliability of patient care;
- Implementation of a computer system that will assist with medication reconciliation including communication about medications with physicians, patients, pharmacies, and care providers; and
- Implementation of order sets

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS MEASURE?

- Health Quality Ontario [see website](#)
- CIHI [see website](#)
- [Contact us](#)

FREQUENCY REPORTED: Annually

NEXT UPDATE: December 2016