

## Update 2



### SHMI – the new Summary Hospital-level Mortality Index

#### **1. What is SHMI?**

The Summary Hospital-level Mortality Index (SHMI) is the new indicator to be used as the national standard for reporting mortality across the NHS in England.

#### **2. How was SHMI created?**

CHKS was part of the steering group of industry experts set up by the Department of Health (DH) to review hospital standardised mortality ratios and make recommendations for a new methodology.

The DH commissioned independent statistical modelling of its recommendations by the School of Health and Related Research (SchARR). The Information Centre has been given responsibility to define the methodology and publish a mortality score for every hospital trust in England quarterly.

#### **3. Has the final SHMI methodology been released?**

No. The Information Centre (IC) published a draft methodology on 29th July and invited feedback by 15th August. We, and other experts from the steering group, have commented on the draft methodology.

#### **4. When will the final methodology be released?**

The Information Centre (IC) is reviewing all comments received from the consultation and will publish a revised methodology at the end of August. Following publication, the IC will create a risk-prediction model which assigns the risk of death for each of the predefined diagnostic groups. The model predicts risk of death based on a series of variables including age, gender, co-morbidities and type of admission.

We will not attempt to replicate the SHMI until the IC has released the full statistical details of the model (eg the specific patient cohort used and the precise weighting of each variable). Without this information, it is impossible to replicate trust SHMI scores accurately. The IC has not yet set a date to release this information and we will update you as soon as we know.

#### **5. When will CHKS provide analysis of SHMI?**

We will be able to provide analysis of this indicator when the final methodology and full statistical details are published by the Information Centre. We will not attempt to replicate SHMI until the IC releases the full statistical details as this would be misleading.

Your CHKS consultant is always available for advice and support so if you have any questions please contact them.

#### **6. What analysis will we provide?**

The Information Centre will produce a hospital trust-level mortality score only. We will provide more detailed analysis of performance and trends throughout different levels of your trust, down to patient level.

**7. Will we include SHMI in our online systems (Signpost or Insight) straight away?**

No. This is a new indicator which must be handled sensitively. We will provide bespoke reports for your trust's executive team and performance specialists before providing access to all staff who use your online systems. This is to ensure that users understand the SHMI, the factors affecting the figures and why it may differ from other mortality indicators.

**8. When will you have access to the new indicator through our online systems (Signpost or Insight)?**

We have already started work behind the scenes to integrate the indicator into our online systems, Signpost and Insight. We aim to release the new functionality four weeks after the Information Centre releases the final methodology and full statistical details.

**9. Will you still have access to RAMI (the CHKS Risk-Adjusted Mortality Index)?**

Yes. We will continue to include RAMI in our online systems and support trusts with analysis.

**10. How can I find out more?**

If you need any further information on the SHMI, please contact your CHKS consultant or the office on 01789 761600 or email [info@chks.co.uk](mailto:info@chks.co.uk)

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