

Appendix 1 List of triggers applied to eligible charts: percentage of charts positive for each trigger, relative risk (RR) and 95% confidence interval (CI), and diagnostic test criteria (sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value (PPV), negative predictive value (NPV))

Trigger number	Trigger description (ordered by frequency)	% with trigger	RR (95% CI)	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
2	Unplanned readmission after discharge from index admission	18.5%	3.2 (2.5-4.0)	41.7%	85.1%	30.2%	90.4%
1	Unplanned admission before index admission	17.1%	2.5 (1.9-3.2)	33.6%	85.5%	26.4%	89.3%
18	Any other undesirable outcome not covered above	9.3%	2.7 (2.1-3.6)	21.8%	92.7%	31.5%	88.4%
9	Other patient complication (e.g. acute myocardial infarction, stroke, pulmonary embolism, any unexpected complication that is not a natural progression of disease or an expected outcome of treatment)	6.9%	3.7 (2.8-4.8)	21.3%	95.4%	41.7%	88.7%
15	Hospital-acquired infection or sepsis	6.5%	5.3 (4.3-6.7)	27.0%	96.7%	55.9%	89.5%
3	Hospital-incurred patient injury	5.5%	3.4 (2.6-4.6)	16.6%	96.3%	40.7%	88.2%
4	Adverse drug reaction	5.1%	2.7 (2.0-3.8)	12.8%	96.1%	33.8%	87.7%
16	Dissatisfaction with care documented in the medical record	2.5%	2.2 (1.3-3.6)	5.2%	97.9%	28.2%	87.0%
11	Unexpected death	1.3%	4.3 (2.8-6.5)	5.2%	99.3%	55.0%	87.1%
5	Unplanned transfer from general care to intensive care	1.2%	4.5 (3.0-6.7)	5.2%	99.4%	57.9%	87.1%
7	Unplanned return to the operating theatre	1.1%	4.8 (3.2-7.0)	5.2%	99.5%	61.1%	87.1%
12	Inappropriate discharge to home	<1%	4.1 (2.5-6.9)	3.3%	99.6%	53.8%	86.9%

8	Unplanned removal, injury or repair of organ during surgery	<1%	4.7 (3.0-7.4)	3.8%	99.6%	61.5%	87.0%
10	Development of neurological deficit not present on admission	<1%	4.5 (2.7-7.3)	3.3%	99.6%	58.3%	86.9%
13	Cardiac or respiratory arrest	<1%	2.1 (0.7-7.0)	0.9%	99.6%	28.6%	86.7%
6	Unplanned transfer to another acute care hospital	<1%	0	<1%	99.9%	<1%	86.6%
17	Documentation or correspondence indicating litigation	<1%	0	<1%	99.9%	<1%	86.6%
14	Injury related to abortion or labour and delivery	Not triggered	-	-	-	-	-