

Proposed Criteria for Identifying Essential Hospital

Criteria for Comparing Hospitals

- Care for vulnerable populations
 - Percent Medicaid & Uninsured Discharges
 - Percent Medicaid & Uninsured ER Visits
 - Medicare Disproportionate Share Hospitals' ratio of patient days for Medicare dual eligible patients to total Medicare patient days
- Availability of Services
 - Provision of Comprehensive Services
 - Trauma Center Designation
 - Burn Unit
 - Travel Time to Next Nearest Hospital
- Utilization
 - Percent of Hospital Service Area's Total ER Visits
 - Inpatient Occupancy

Other Factors to Consider

- Quality of care and efficiency improvements that may be necessary in financially distressed, essential hospitals
- Public transportation alterations or other transportation solutions that may be necessary to maintain access to care
- Potential access to care implications for particular racial and ethnic groups
- Impact on ambulatory service delivery
- Impact on employment in area
- Hospital system solutions