**Appendix A : Algorithms**

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| Indicator | Definition | |
|  | Inclusion | Exclusion |
| Pressure Ulcer | ICD-9-CM code of pressure ulcer\* in any secondary diagnosis field | Primary diagnosis of pressure ulcer\*; age <16 years, length of stay<5 days; MDC 9; MDC 14; with any diagnosis of hemiplegia\*, paraplegia\*, or quadriplegia\*; with ICD-9-CM code of spina bifida\* or anoxic brain damage\*; with an ICD-9-CM procedure code for debridement\* or pedicle graft \*before or on the same day as the major operating room procedure\* (surgical cases only); admitted from a long-term care facility; transferred from an acute care facility |
| Postoperative pulmonary embolism or deep vein thrombosis | ICD-9-CM codes for deep vein thrombosis\* or pulmonary embolism\* in any secondary diagnosis field | Medical APR-DRG’s; Primary diagnosis of deep vein thrombosis\* or pulmonary embolism\*; age <16 years; where a procedure for interruption of vena cava\* is the only operating room procedure\*; where a procedure for interruption of vena cava\* occurs before or on the same day as the first operating room procedure; MDC 14 |
| Postoperative sepsis | ICD-9-CM code for sepsis\* in any secondary diagnosis field | Medical APR-DRG’s; Primary diagnosis of sepsis\*; Infection ICD-9-CM codes as primary diagnosis\*; age <16 years; non-elective admissions; any ICD-9-CM code for immune-compromised state\* or cancer\*; MDC 14; length of stay of less than 4 days; Infection APR-DRG’s (49-50, 113, 137, 139, 193, 344, 345, 383, 463, 531, 710, 720, 724), Cancer APR-DRG’s (41, 58, 110, 136, 240, 281, 362, 382, 442, 461, 500, 511-512, 530, 680-683, 690-694, 862) |
| Ventilator associated pneumonia | ICD-9-CM pneumonia\* in any secondary diagnosis field AND a Belgian nomenclature code for artifcial ventilation (211046) | Primary diagnosis of pneumonia\* or 997.3; age <16 years; with any diagnosis code for viral pneumonia\*; MDC 4; MDC 14; with any diagnosis of immunocompromised state\* |
| Post-operative wound infection | ICD-9-CM code of wound infection (99851, 99859) in any secondary diagnosis field | Medical APR-DRG’s; Primary diagnosis of wound infection (99851, 99859); age <16 years; |

\*patient safety indicators (Department of Health and Human Services. Guide to Patient Safety Indicators. 2006. Rockville, MD, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.)