

Data Element Name: *Temperature*

Collected For: CMS/The Joint Commission: SCIP-Inf-10

Definition: Documentation of active warming used intraoperatively **OR** at least one body temperature equal to or greater than 96.8° Fahrenheit/36° Celsius within the 30 minutes immediately prior to or the 15 minutes immediately after *Anesthesia End Time* is found in the medical record.

NOTE: For active warming, the timeframe for the intraoperative period is from *Anesthesia Start Time* through *Anesthesia End Time*.

Suggested Data Collection Question: Was there documentation of active warming used intraoperatively **OR** at least one body temperature equal to or greater than 96.8° Fahrenheit/36° Celsius within the 30 minutes immediately prior to or the 15 minutes immediately after *Anesthesia End Time* in the medical record?

Format:

Length: 1

Type: Alphanumeric

Occurs: 1-2

Allowable Values:

Select all that apply:

- 1 Active warming was performed intraoperatively.
- 2 There is documentation of at least one body temperature greater than or equal to 96.8° Fahrenheit/36° Celsius within the 30 minutes immediately prior to or the 15 minutes immediately after *Anesthesia End Time*.
- 3 There is no documentation of Allowable Values 1 **AND** 2.
- 4 Unable to determine from the medical record documentation.

Notes for Abstraction:

- Active warming is limited to forced-air warming, conductive **warming**, warm-water garments, **and resistive warming**.
- Active warming can be performed at any time from *Anesthesia Start Time* through *Anesthesia End Time*. If the patient had a warming device on any time during the intraoperative period, select “1.” The warming device can be placed prior to the *Anesthesia Start Time*, but should be documented as used during the intraoperative period.
- The temperature can be any temperature value recorded within the 30 minutes immediately prior to or the 15 minutes immediately after *Anesthesia End Time*.

- If the recorded temperature was not within the specified range but active warming with the specified modalities was used intraoperatively, select “1.”
- If the recorded temperature was lower than the specified range AND no active warming was used, select “3.”
- If active warming was performed intraoperatively AND there is documentation of at least one body temperature greater than or equal to 96.8° Fahrenheit/36° Celsius within the 30 minutes immediately prior to or the 15 minutes immediately after *Anesthesia End Time*, select “1” and “2.”
- If Allowable Values “3” or “4” are selected, no other value should be selected.
- Temperature values that need converting, such as axillary temperature values, should be converted **prior** to recording in the medical record for the purposes of abstraction.

Suggested Data Sources:

- Anesthesia record
- Operative Note
- Operative record
- PACU/recovery room record
- Vital signs graphic record

Inclusion Guidelines for Abstraction:

Temperature:

- Axillary temperature
- Bladder probe
- Core temp
- Esophageal temperature
- Oral/PO/by mouth
- Rectal temp
- Rectally (R)
- Skin surface temperatures
- T/R
- Temporal artery temperatures
- Tympanic (tymp) temperature

Patient Warming Modalities:

- Conductive warming
- Forced air warming
- Resistive warming
- Warm water garments

Exclusion Guidelines for Abstraction:

Patient Warming Modalities:

- Airway heaters or humidifiers
- Blood and fluid warmers
- Body cavity lavage
- Passive heating systems (space blankets or caps)
- Radiant heat sources
- Blankets heated in a blanket warmer