

HEART ATTACK DEFINITIONS

Aspirin at arrival: Percent of eligible patients receiving aspirin for treatment of a heart attack within 24 hours of arrival at the hospital

Aspirin has been shown to prevent clotting and to restore blood flow to the heart. Eligible heart attack patients should be given aspirin within 24 hours of arrival at the hospital.

Aspirin at discharge: Percent of eligible patients receiving a prescription for aspirin when discharged from the hospital after a heart attack.

Aspirin has been shown to prevent clotting and to restore blood flow to the heart. To help prevent further heart problems, aspirin should be prescribed for eligible heart attack patients when they leave the hospital.

Beta Blockers at discharge: Percent of eligible patients receiving a prescription for beta blocker medications when discharged from the hospital after a heart attack.

Beta blocker medications have been shown to help prevent future heart attacks, and should be prescribed for heart attack patients when they leave the hospital.

ACE Inhibitor or ARB medications at discharge for heart attack patients: Percent of eligible patients who received a prescription for ACE inhibitor or ARB medications at discharge from the hospital.

Angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor and angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB) medications have been shown to help prevent further heart problems in heart attack patients. ACE inhibitors or ARB medications should be prescribed for heart attack patients when they leave the hospital.

[Advice for heart attack patients to quit smoking](#): Percent of eligible heart attack patients who were advised to quit smoking.

Giving advice about quitting smoking is important for heart attack patients who are smokers, or who have smoked within the past year.