

Alternate Level of Care (ALC) Designation Education

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Interior Health
Every person matters

OBJECTIVES

- Gain awareness of the Mandated requirements for ALC Designation reporting
- Develop an understanding of why we do ALC Designation & Z-coding
- Gain clarity of the Role of the ALC Designator and Interprofessional Team
- Become familiar with how the ALC Decision is made.
- Aware of current state of ALC Designation Decision Accuracy across IH

CIHI

The capturing of ALC data is mandated nationally through the Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI)



Canadian Institute
for Health Information

Institut canadien
d'information sur la santé

Definition - ALC

ALC - Alternate Level of Care

When a patient is occupying a bed in an Acute facility and does not require the intensity of resources/services provided in that care setting

(CIHI 2016)

Acute Inpatient Care


An active, short-term care episode including facility based overnight stay and the presence of active treatment, care/monitoring, and/or access to diagnostics to stabilize a plan of care

(CIHI 2016)




Intent of ALC Designation & Z-coding

ALC data is captured to:

- Identify the reason that the discharge of non-acute patients from hospital is delayed
 - Support patient discharge by actively care planning around the identified barrier
 - Identify local and regional service gaps in the system
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Role of ALC Designator

- ALC Designators have specialized training to conduct ALC designation and selection of Code Category and Z-code
 - At most sites the Transition Liaisons (TLs) are the ALC Designators. Other sites have Community Nurses providing that function
 - ALC Designation is a collaborative process but consensus by the Interprofessional Team in the ALC Designation decision is not needed. The ALC Designator is responsible for the final decision
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Role of the Inter-professional Team

A collaborative discussion from the Interprofessional Team, during Structured Team Rounds (STRs), helps the ALC Designator to determine if the patient is Acute or ALC



First Decision

Determine is this Patient

Acute vs ALC

Inside Net Resource

Review Acute vs.ALC Definitions Guidelines March 2016

<http://insidenet.interiorhealth.ca/Clinical/act/Pages/alc.aspx>

ALC Accuracy across IH

ALC Designation Site Reviews

9 Selected IH Acute Facilities

September 2016- January 2017

Purpose:

To assess IH ALC Designation and Z-codes Standardization at nine Selected IH acute facilities

ALC Designation Decision Accuracy at IH

ALC Designation Decision			
Should this patient be designated ALC or Remain Acute?			
2016-2017	Percent Accurate (Reviewer Agreed)		ALC days impacted +/- days
259 charts reviewed	132 patients designation of Acute	<i>56% agreed</i>	+329 days (understated ALC Days)
	127 patients Designated ALC	<i>100 % agreed</i>	0 (overstated ALC Days)

Second Decision

Why is this patient, who has been designated ALC, remaining in an acute care bed?

IH ALC Code category and Z-code

Inside Net Resource

Review ALC Category and Z-codes February 2019

<http://insidenet.interiorhealth.ca/Clinical/act/Pages/alc.aspx>

Complex Scenarios

- ALC Designators are supported by IH's ALC Regional Knowledge Coordinator, Renee LaRoche, who can assist with ALC Designation Decisions or Code Category selection.
- ALC Designators can also bring forward complex cases to the monthly *IH ALC Designation Working Group* meeting for a group discussion and resolution



QUESTIONS?

