



**CQO:**  
The Health Care  
Supply Chain

## Linen Pounds Per Adjusted Patient Day (APD)



**Purpose:**

Measure the quantity of linen cleaned and processed for the health care organization.

**Value:**

Identify opportunities to reduce linen pounds processed to lower operational costs and improve profitability for the hospital/system.

**Equation:**

$$\frac{\text{Total linen processed (pounds)}}{\text{Adjusted Patient Days (APD)}} = \text{Linen Pounds Per Adjusted Patient Day (APD)}$$

*Note: it is favorable to have a higher value for this Key. The higher the value the better.*

**Example:**

- A hospital’s total linen pounds processed this month is 100,000 lbs.
- The hospital’s total adjusted patient days this month is 6,000.

$$100,000 \div 6,000 = \mathbf{16.7 \text{ Linen Pounds Per Adjusted Patient Day (APD)}}$$

**Input Descriptions and Sources:**

Input Name	Includes	Excludes
Adjusted Patient Days (APD)	Total number of Adjusted Patient Days (APD) for the month for your organization.	
Total linen processed (pounds)	All hospital purchased or rented linen used and processed by the Environmental Services department and/or outsourced supplier, in pounds.	



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### Points of Clarification:

- While differences may exist in each health care organization's total linen pounds processed, the metric will normalize the differences between organizations through adjusted patient days.
- The audience can set monthly metric targets to understand the organization's achievement towards reduced environmental impact and operational costs.
- This metric can be especially useful in terms of influencing behavior and practices of environmental services, nursing and clinician staff to reduce overall linen used and processed.
- The metric should be used directionally to determine how the organization is performing relative to peers.
- By managing and reducing the quantity of linen cleaned, processed and delivered, the hospital achieves sustainability goals through conserving water and electricity and reducing greenhouse gases.
- In general, a lower metric suggests that the hospital is effectively managing and reducing total linen pounds used and processed internally or by its external partner. The total adjusted patient day metric ensures that the metric is normalized across institutions, as it serves as a key driver for linen volumes.