

# Inpatient

An inpatient (or in-patient), on the other hand, is “admitted” to the hospital and stays overnight or for an indeterminate time, usually several days or weeks (though some cases, such as coma patients, have been in hospitals for years). Treatment provided in this fashion is called inpatient care. The admission to the hospital involves the production of an admission note. The leaving of the hospital is officially termed discharge, and involves a corresponding discharge note. )).

Inpatient [care](#) is the care of [patients](#) whose condition requires [admission](#) to a [hospital](#). Progress in modern [medicine](#) and the advent of comprehensive out-patient clinics ensure that patients are only admitted to a hospital when they are extremely ill or are have severe physical trauma.

[Inpatient](#) days are calculated by subtracting day of [admission](#) from day of [discharge](#). (However, persons entering and leaving a [hospital](#) on the same day have a [length of stay](#) of one).

The severity of [claims](#) was higher in the [inpatient](#) setting compared to the [ambulatory](#) setting. The most common alleged injuries included the need for additional surgery (45.6%), [pain](#) (33.8%), mobility dysfunction (10.3%), worsened injury (8.8%), [death](#) (7.4%), and total loss (7.4%). The top contributing factors to wrong-site surgery were failure to follow [policy/protocol](#) (83.8%) and failure to [review](#) the [medical records](#) (41.2%). The mean closed claim value was \$136,452.84, and 60.3% of cases were settled.

The risk of [wrong-site surgery](#) is increased with [spine surgery](#), likely due to unique technical [challenges](#). Further research is required to identify effective methods of prevention of these events <sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>

Tan J, Ross JM, Wright D, Pimentel MPT, Urman RD. A Contemporary Analysis of Closed Claims Related to Wrong-Site Surgery. Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf. 2023 Feb 11:S1553-7250(23)00053-3. doi: 10.1016/j.jcjq.2023.02.002. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36925434.

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