

# Colorectal Surgery

Insights for better care, lower cost, and improved outcomes

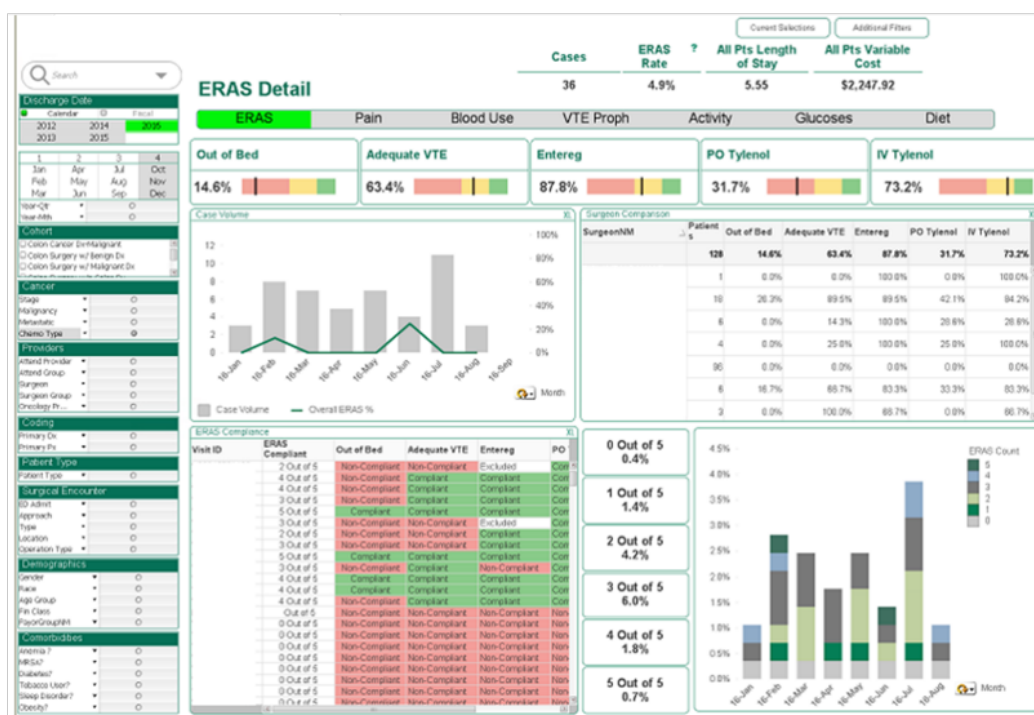
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The **Colorectal Surgery** analytics accelerator provides data and visualizations to improve best-practice care of patients undergoing colorectal surgery—supporting teams in their efforts to improve length of stay (LOS), prevent postoperative complications and readmissions, lower costs, and improve long-term patient outcomes.



This accelerator equips your organization to focus on targeted quality and cost outcomes.

## The problem

- **Colorectal surgery is commonly indicated**, especially for patients with colorectal cancer. Colorectal cancer is one of the most common cancers—and of the millions of new cases diagnosed annually, most require surgery. Other indications for colorectal surgery include inflammatory bowel disease, trauma, and diverticulitis.
- **An “Enhanced Recovery After Surgery” (ERAS) pathway presents an opportunity to improve patient outcomes.** Systematic reviews have shown that implementing an ERAS pathway can reduce morbidity up to 48% and decrease LOS by almost 3 days.
- **Improving clinical and operational surgical workflow processes can boost efficiency and financial performance.** Multiple healthcare systems have achieved substantial and sustainable gains in financial performance and operating room (OR) efficiency measures such as improved on-time OR starts, increased OR capacity, and reduced staffing needs.

## Intended Users

- Chief of Surgery
- Chief Quality Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Clinical directors
- Operational directors
- Clinical educators
- Colorectal Surgery service-line leadership and teams
- Supply chain managers
- Nursing leadership
- Clinical support services

## Potential data sources

- EMR - Clinical
- Finance/Costing
- Patient Satisfaction
- Supply chain
- Claims
- Other clinical, e.g., anesthesia

## Our approach

The Colorectal Surgery analytic accelerator supports a disciplined, data-driven approach to surgical evaluation and care, helping to drive and sustain significant improvement in clinical and financial outcomes. Typical implementations focus on early detection, prehabilitation, adherence to best-practice standards of care, and care transitions—areas where getting it right is especially meaningful to improve quality and cost.

## Benefits and features

- **Access an at-a-glance, near real-time view of quality of care and its impact.** The application dashboard visualizes outcome and process metrics in an easy-to-consume, one-page summary. Users can see trends as they develop—and take timely action to address issues.
- **Start faster with meaningful, scalable clinical definitions.** The cohorts, definitions, and process measures that come with the accelerator are clinically relevant, standard, and meaningful across domains, ready for customization or adoption in your organization. Instead of spending months debating the definition of LOS or the parameters for average glucose, your teams can quickly begin improvement work. What's more, the work is scalable: you have only one source of truth to maintain as definitions change.
- **Focus your team on what matters most.** Outcome metrics typically include complication rate, readmission rate, LOS, patient experience, and cost-per-case. Typical process metrics include documentation of medical necessity and compliance with care protocols related to blood utilization, pain management, glycemic control, VTE prophylaxis, and early mobility. The result? Your team understands the priorities and can help solve problems that stand in the way of improvement.
- **Explore and share data.** Detailed analytics provide dynamic data exploration, real-time filtering, and drill-down to patient-level detail. A Comorbidities tab enriches understanding of the patient and the appropriateness of the care they receive. The application also provides export or print capability for the patient list, metric performance, etc. so you can share and follow up.
- **Compare and contrast.** A Compare tab lets you review patient and care variables—including cancer stage, variation in care, performance in different units, etc.—to determine what's working and not working to improve outcomes. This feature also allows you to gauge the ROI of improvement work in particular areas: what could you achieve if every unit and provider standardized to match your best performance?

## Use cases

- **The Chief of Surgery** in a large hospital system observes that the post-operative transfusion rates have been steadily increasing over the past six months in patients undergoing colorectal surgery. What are the drivers of this disturbing trend...are transfusions being ordered based upon latest best-practice recommendations? He uses the Colorectal Surgery Analytic Accelerator to explore performance and guide a plan to intervene.
- **The Head of Colorectal Surgery** understands that efforts surrounding prehabilitation may have a positive impact on LOS following colorectal surgery. As improvement efforts are implemented, she and colleagues use the application to monitor these outcomes, understand the factors that affect these results, and tune local processes and interventions for best results.
- **A guidance team** is trying to identify their next area of focus for continuous improvement of their surgical outcomes. They use the application to gauge the potential impact of reducing unwarranted variation in surgical supply usage. What is the best-performing surgical team using—and what might widespread adoption of their supplies mean for the organization?

## Key measures

- Complication rate
- Readmission rate
- Length of stay (LOS) and OR case time
- Cost-per-case
- Discharge to home with home health or self-care
- Patient satisfaction
- Health-related quality of life (HRQOL)
- ERAS measures: pre-op, post-op

## Success stories

For examples of how customers have used Health Catalyst products and services to improve outcomes, see our [success stories at healthcatalyst.com](https://www.healthcatalyst.com/success-stories)

## Contact us

For more information on how Health Catalyst products and services can help your organization, please contact us:

- Reach out to your sales representative
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