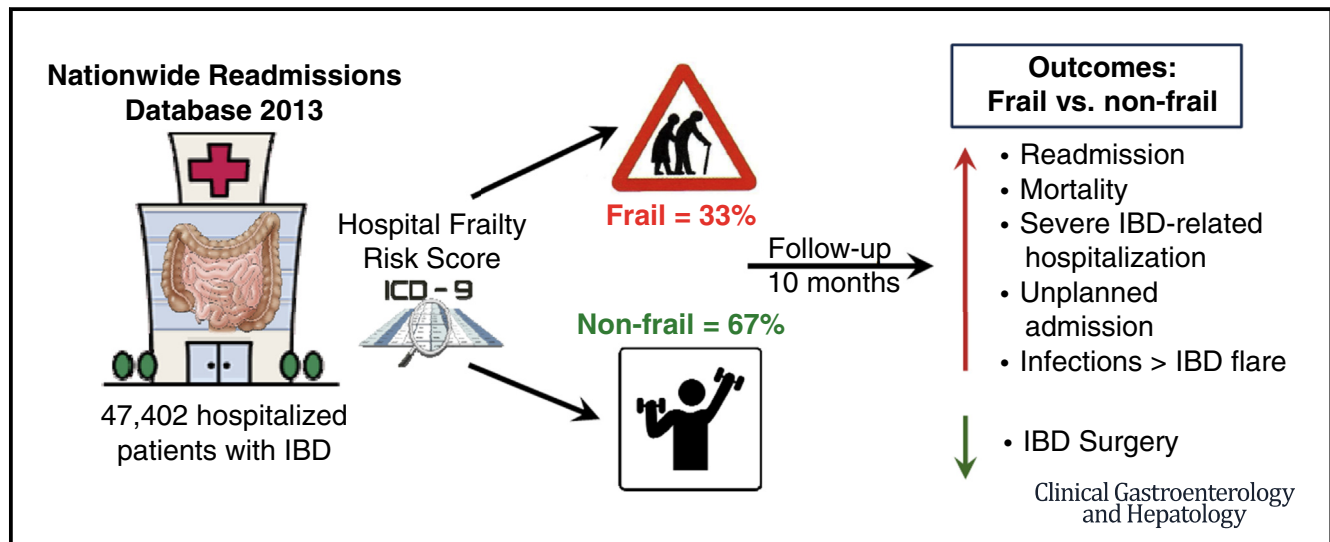


# Frailty Is Independently Associated with Mortality and Readmission in Hospitalized Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

Alexander S. Qian,<sup>\*,a</sup> Nghia H. Nguyen,<sup>\*,a</sup> Jessica Elia,<sup>‡</sup> Lucila Ohno-Machado,<sup>§</sup> William J. Sandborn,<sup>\*</sup> and Siddharth Singh<sup>\*,§</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine, University of California San Diego; <sup>‡</sup>Expert Rehabilitation Services and <sup>§</sup>Division of Biomedical Informatics, Department of Medicine, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California



## BACKGROUND & AIMS:

Old age must be considered in weighing the risks of complications vs benefits of treatment for patients with inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD). We conducted a nationally representative cohort study to estimate the independent effects of frailty on burden, costs, and causes for hospitalization in patients with IBD.

## METHODS:

We searched the Nationwide Readmissions Database to identify 47,402 patients with IBD, hospitalized from January through June 2013 and followed for readmission through December 31, 2013. Based on a validated hospital frailty risk scoring system, 15,507 patients were considered frail and 31,895 were considered non-frail at index admission. We evaluated the independent effect of frailty on longitudinal burden and costs of hospitalization, inpatient mortality, risk of readmission and surgery, and reasons for readmission.

## RESULTS:

Over a median follow-up time of 10 months, adjusting for age, sex, income, comorbidity index, depression, obesity, severity, and indication for index hospitalization, frailty was independently associated with 57% higher risk of mortality (adjusted hazard ratio [aHR], 1.57; 95% CI, 1.34–1.83), 21% higher risk of all-cause readmission (adjusted hazard ratio [HR], 1.21; 95% CI, 1.17–1.25), and 22% higher risk of readmission for severe IBD (aHR, 1.22; 95% CI, 1.16–1.29). Frail patients with IBD spent more days in the hospital annually (median 9 days; interquartile range, 4–18 days vs median 5 days for non-frail patients; interquartile range, 3–10 days;  $P < .01$ ).

<sup>a</sup>Authors share co-first authorship.

**Abbreviations used in this paper:** aHR, adjusted hazard ratio; CCI, Charlson Comorbidity Index; CCS, Clinical Classifications Software; HCUP, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project; IBD, inflammatory bowel disease; ICD-9-CM, International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision-Clinical Modification; NRD, Nationwide Readmissions Database.

with higher costs of hospitalization (\$17,791; interquartile range, \$8368–\$38,942 vs \$10,924 for non-frail patients, interquartile range, \$5571–\$22,632;  $P < .01$ ). Infections, rather than IBD, were the leading cause of hospitalization for frail patients.

## CONCLUSIONS:

Frailty is independently associated with higher mortality and burden of hospitalization in patients with IBD; infections are the leading cause of hospitalization. Frailty should be considered in treatment approach, especially in older patients with IBD.

**Keywords:** Ageing; Prognostic; Infection; Crohn's Disease; Colitis.

The incidence and prevalence of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) in older adults are rising; approximately 10%–15% of new IBD diagnoses occur in individuals older than 60 years, with incidence rates as high as 18.9 per 100,000.<sup>1–3</sup> In addition, it is expected that within the next decade, more than one-third of patients with IBD will be older patients.<sup>4</sup> Older patients with IBD represent a vulnerable population with higher rates of hospitalization, inpatient mortality, serious infections, and longer length of stay and higher costs of hospitalization.<sup>5–8</sup> Although there has been considerable emphasis on identifying patients at high risk for disease-related complications to inform early use of biologic therapy, there has been limited evaluation of factors that inform risk of treatment-related or extraintestinal non-IBD complications that may be more relevant to older patients.<sup>9–11</sup> Age is an inadequate metric to ascertain risk-benefit tradeoffs of different therapies based on underlying risks of disease and treatment complications. As a result, there is considerable practice variability in managing older patients with IBD, with a preponderance of long-term corticosteroid use and limited use of steroid-sparing therapies.<sup>12,13</sup>

Beyond age, a more comprehensive assessment of biologic reserve and functional status may be more predictive of overall risks of adverse health outcomes. Frailty represents a dynamic state with vulnerability to external and internal stressors and has been associated with increased risk of hospitalization and mortality in several diseases, although there has been limited assessment of frailty in IBD.<sup>14</sup> Recently, Kochar et al<sup>15</sup> identified frailty, measured by using the Hospital Frailty Risk Score, as an independent predictor of serious infections in biologic-treated patients with IBD.

To further understand the impact of frailty on risk of unplanned healthcare utilization in patients with IBD, we conducted a retrospective cohort study in hospitalized adults with IBD. We used the Nationwide Readmissions Database (NRD) 2013, a longitudinal, nationally representative sample of all-payer hospital inpatient stays from 21 state inpatient databases developed as part of the family of databases developed by Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP), to estimate and compare the hospitalization-related burden, costs, and causes of hospitalization in frail vs non-frail patients with IBD.<sup>16,17</sup> The presence of frailty was determined by using the Hospital Frailty Risk Score, a validated, administrative claims-based frailty risk score for hospitalized patients.<sup>18</sup>

## Methods

### Data Source

The NRD 2013 is a nationally representative longitudinal database developed and maintained by HCUP as a partnership among federal, state, and industry stakeholders and sponsored by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.<sup>16,17</sup> The database tracks patients from 21 state inpatient databases around the country and accounts for 49.3% of the US population, capturing demographic, clinical, and nonclinical variables from community, public, and academic medical centers. The databases track patients hospitalized within a state over the course of any single year, and after adjusting for missing patient linkage numbers and overlapping inpatient stays, they capture 85% of all discharges. Using this database, we created a retrospective cohort study to compare clinical outcomes between frail vs non-frail patients hospitalized with IBD.

This study was deemed exempt from Institutional Review Board because the NRD is a publicly available database that contains de-identified patient information. Overall study design with cohort selection, exposure assignment, and outcome ascertainment has been summarized in [Supplementary Figure 1](#).

### Study Population

We included all adults (age  $\geq 18$  years) admitted with a primary or secondary discharge diagnosis of IBD between January and June 2013 at time of index hospitalization. After the first admission with a discharge diagnosis of IBD, patients were deemed to be “at-risk” for hospitalization and contributed to follow-up time until December 31, 2013 or death. We used the Clinical Classifications Software (CCS) for International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision-Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM), developed by HCUP, to identify patients with IBD (CCS code 144).<sup>19</sup> The CCS for ICD-9-CM, developed by HCUP, is a categorization scheme for diagnoses and procedures that collapses ICD-9-CM's extensive codes into smaller number of categories that are both clinically meaningful and more useful for presenting descriptive statistics ([Supplementary Methods](#)).

We excluded patients with (1) age  $< 18$  at time of index hospitalization, (2) index hospitalization between

July and December 2013, (3) initial hospitalization for elective surgery (to allow assessment of impact of frailty in medically treated patients with IBD), (4) transferred from another hospital, (5) missing data for length of hospital stay, or (6) missing data on hospital charges for a given admission.

### *Exposure Assessment*

At the time of first hospitalization, patients' frailty risk score was calculated by using the Hospital Frailty Risk Score.<sup>18</sup> This frailty score was developed and validated in 1.04 million hospitalized older adults  $\geq 75$  years to screen for frailty and identify a group of patients who are at greater risk of adverse outcomes (mortality, readmission, length of stay). This low-cost score is based on International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision codes, can be readily implemented in hospital information systems, and performs as well as existing frailty and risk stratification tools. We translated the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision codes used in the study to corresponding ICD-9-CM codes ([Supplementary Table 1](#)) and used them to assign patients into a low frailty risk (frailty risk score  $< 5$ ) (or non-frail patients), medium frailty risk (score 5–15), and high frailty risk (score  $> 15$ ). Although the Hospital Frailty Risk Score ranges from 0 to 99, the original validation study defined these cutoffs to create categories that discriminated most strongly between individuals with different outcomes. Because high frailty risk population accounted for only 3.1% of the cohort, we combined medium and high frailty risk patients into one exposure category, classified as frail.

### *Patient and Hospital Characteristics*

For each patient, we examined their age, sex, primary expected payment source (Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, self-pay, and other insurance types), income quartile based on household income of the patient's zip code, and relevant comorbidities to calculate Charlson Comorbidity Index (CCI) ([Supplementary Table 2](#)). For each hospitalization, we captured procedures (gastrointestinal or hepatic procedures such as endoscopy, colonoscopy, paracentesis, etc, and IBD-related procedures), gastrointestinal surgeries (colostomy, ileostomy, small bowel resection, colorectal resection, local excision of large intestine lesion, etc), and clinical events (blood transfusions and parenteral or enteral nutrition) ([Supplementary Table 3](#)). For each hospital, we examined hospital location, teaching status, and bed size (small, medium, large).

### *Outcomes*

Our co-primary outcomes of interest were risk of inpatient mortality and readmission after discharge from

## **What You Need to Know**

### **Background**

Age is an inadequate metric to ascertain risks vs benefits of treatments for inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD). Assessment of biologic reserve and functional status might be better for determining overall risk of adverse outcome.

### **Findings**

In a nationally representative cohort study of 47,402 hospitalized patients with IBD (33% frail), frailty, measured using a validated hospital frailty risk score, was associated with a higher subsequent risk of mortality, readmission, and annual burden and costs of hospitalization. Infections, rather than IBD, were the leading cause of hospitalization in frail patients.

### **Implications for patient care**

Frailty is an important prognostic factor for patients with IBD and should be considered in selection of treatment.

index hospitalization. Secondary outcomes of interest included (1) annual burden of hospitalization (total number of days spent in hospital in 2013), (2) annual costs of hospitalization (total costs of hospitalization in 2013, calculated by multiplying charges for each hospitalization with the cost-to-charge ratios for each hospital for 2013), (3) need for IBD-related surgery, (4) severe IBD-related readmission (length of stay  $> 7$  days or need for IBD-related surgery), (5) unplanned hospitalization, and (6) preventable admission. Preventable hospital admissions were characterized by using ICD-9 codes for Prevention Quality Indicators, which are a set of measures, developed by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, that can be used with hospital inpatient discharge data as a "screening tool" to identify ambulatory conditions for which high-quality, community-based outpatient care can potentially prevent hospitalization, complications, or more severe disease ([Supplementary Table 4](#)).

In addition, we categorized causes for hospitalizations as cardiac, cerebrovascular, respiratory, infections, genitourinary, gastrointestinal (divided into IBD-related vs non-IBD gastrointestinal causes), endocrine/metabolic, neuropsychiatric, malignancies, fractures, thromboembolism, inflammatory bowel disease specific, and others based on primary CCS diagnosis codes ([Supplementary Tables 5 and 6](#)).

### *Statistical Analysis*

We used descriptive statistics to compare patient demographics, admission characteristics, and hospital characteristics for the index hospitalization for frail vs non-frail patients with IBD. We used Pearson  $\chi^2$  test to

**Table 1.** Patient, Hospital, and Hospitalization Characteristics of Frail vs Non-frail Patients With IBD at Time of Index Hospitalization

| Characteristics at time of index hospitalization                        | Non-frail patients (N = 31,895) | Frail patients (N = 15,507) | P value |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Age, y (mean $\pm$ standard deviation)                                  | 49.2 $\pm$ 18.5                 | 61.9 $\pm$ 18.2             | <.01    |
| Age by categories (%)   |                                 |                             |         |
| • Age <40   | 36.1                            | 14.1                        | <.01    |
| • Age 40–64   | 39.5                            | 35.4                        |         |
| • Age >64   | 24.4                            | 50.5                        |         |
| Female (%)  | 55.7                            | 60.0                        | <.01    |
| Urban (%)   | 92.4                            | 91.5                        | <.01    |
| Primary expected payer (%)  |                                 |                             |         |
| 1. Medicare/Medicaid  | 43.6                            | 69.2                        | <.01    |
| 2. Private insurance  | 45.6                            | 24.0                        |         |
| 3. Self-pay   | 5.5                             | 3.49                        |         |
| 4. No charge/others   | 5.3                             | 3.29                        |         |
| Median household income (%)   |                                 |                             |         |
| 1. 0–25th percentile (\$1–\$37,999)                                     | 21.9                            | 23.4                        | <.01    |
| 2. 26th to 50th percentile (\$38,000–\$47,999)                          | 24.9                            | 26.5                        |         |
| 3. 51st to 75th percentile (\$48,000–\$63,999)                          | 26.3                            | 25.4                        |         |
| 4. 76th to 100th percentile (\$64,000 or more)                          | 27.0                            | 24.8                        |         |
| Teaching status (%)   |                                 |                             |         |
| 1. Metropolitan non-teaching  | 39.6                            | 43.6                        | <.01    |
| 2. Metropolitan teaching  | 52.8                            | 47.9                        |         |
| 3. Non-metropolitan   | 7.6                             | 8.5                         |         |
| Bed size (%)  |                                 |                             |         |
| 1. Small  | 10.4                            | 10.6                        | .28     |
| 2. Medium   | 23.3                            | 23.8                        |         |
| 3. Large  | 67.3                            | 65.6                        |         |
| Deyo-Charlson Comorbidity Index (%)                                     |                                 |                             |         |
| • 0   | 69.1                            | 41.8                        | <.01    |
| • 1   | 17.6                            | 20.3                        |         |
| • 2 or more   | 13.3                            | 37.9                        |         |
| IBD-related procedures (%)  | 34.3                            | 30.4                        | <.01    |
| IBD-related surgery (%)   | 0                               | 0                           |         |
| Length of stay (unadjusted by month of follow-up)                       |                                 |                             |         |
| • Median  | 3                               | 5                           | <.01    |
| • IQR   | 2–5                             | 3–9                         |         |
| Proportion with severe IBD hospitalization (LOS >7 days or surgery) (%) | 11.6                            | 32.3                        | <.01    |

**Table 1.** Continued

| Characteristics at time of index hospitalization | Non-frail patients (N = 31,895) | Frail patients (N = 15,507) | P value |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Unplanned hospitalization (%)                    | 77.8                            | 91.1                        | <.01    |
| Preventable hospitalization (%)                  | 5.3                             | 11.7                        | <.01    |

IBD, inflammatory bowel disease; IQR, interquartile range; LOS, length of stay.

analyze categorical variables and Student *t* test for continuous variables. Categorical variables are expressed as percentages and continuous variables as median with an interquartile range. All hypothesis testing was performed by using a two-sided *P* value with a statistical significance threshold <.05. To evaluate the effect of independent effect of frailty on longitudinal outcomes, we performed multivariable Cox proportional hazard analysis using backward variable selection, adjusting for age, sex, obesity, household income, and CCI score (based on smoking, obesity, anemia, congestive heart failure, chronic lung disease, depression, diabetes, hypertension, coagulation disorder, liver disorder, electrolyte abnormalities, peripheral vascular disease, psychoses, chronic pain, and renal failure).<sup>20</sup> In addition, we performed analysis stratified by patients without any significant comorbidities (CCI score 0) and patients with comorbidities (CCI 1 or more). Post hoc, on the basis of reviewers' comments, we updated the multivariable analysis, also adjusting for length of stay at index admission, and reason for index admission (IBD-related vs non-IBD related). All statistical analyses were performed with Stata MP (2015, Stata Statistical Software: Release 14; StataCorp, College Station, TX).

## Results

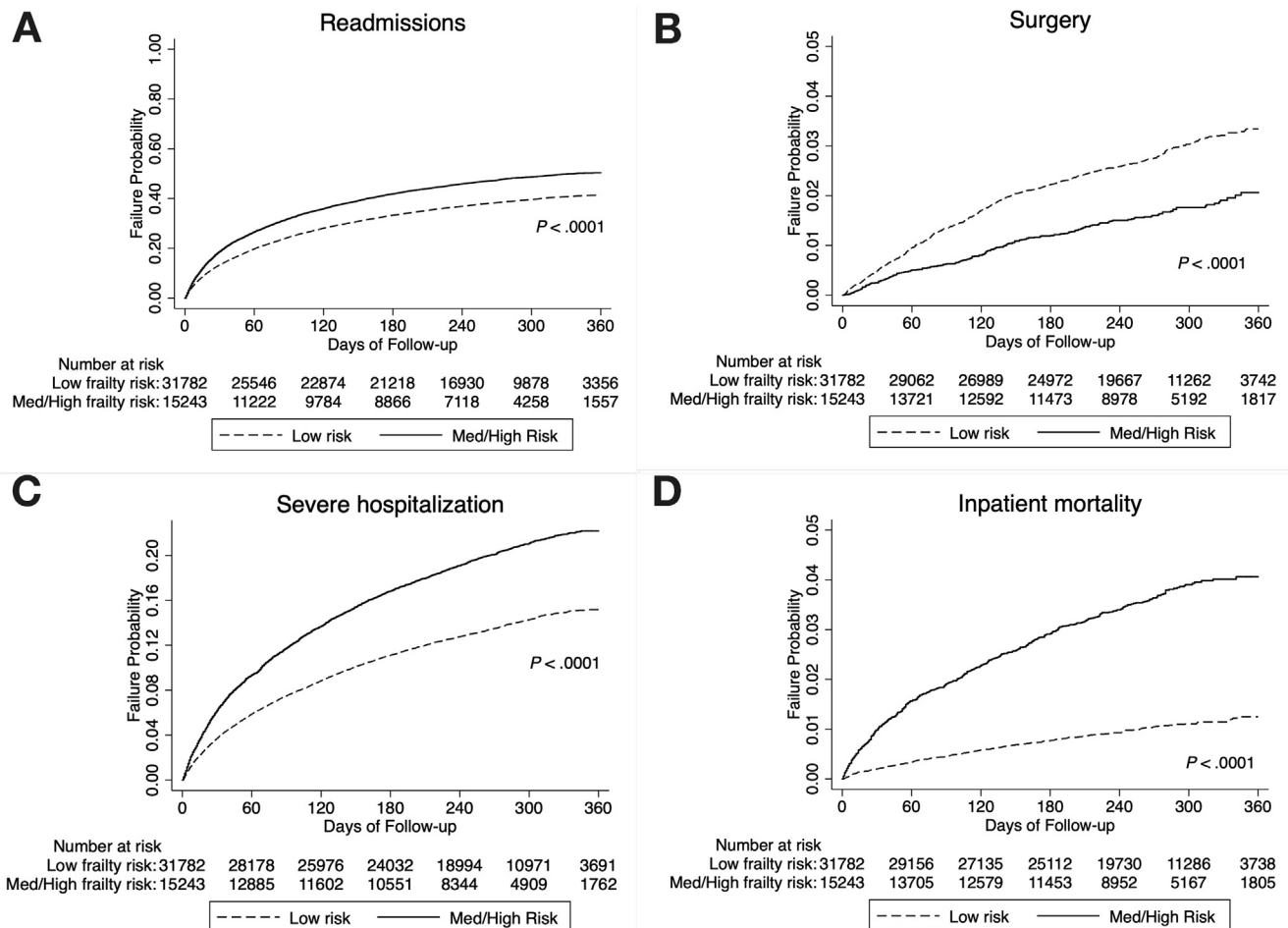
Out of 14,325,172 discharge records analyzed in NRD 2013, 94,498 records were identified for analysis, representing 47,402 unique patients with index hospitalizations between January and June 2013 with a primary or secondary discharge diagnosis of IBD. Of these, 31,895 patients (67.2%) were classified as non-frail, and 15,507 patients (32.7%) were classified as frail (14,027 patients classified as having medium and 1480 as high frailty risk). As compared with non-frail patients, patients with frailty were older, female, and had higher burden of comorbidities and longer length of stay at time of index hospitalization (when their frailty status was assessed) (Table 1). Claims codes within the hospital frailty risk score that were most frequently represented in our cohort were “disorders of fluid electrolyte and acid-base



**Table 2.** Longitudinal Hospitalization-Related Outcomes in Patients With IBD, Based on Frailty Risk Score

| Outcomes during follow-up  | Non-frail patients (N = 31,895) | Frail patients (N = 15,507) | P value |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Outcomes within 6 months of index hospitalization  |                                 |                             |         |
| Readmission (%)  | 33.2                            | 41.2                        | <.01    |
| Inpatient mortality (%)  | 0.70                            | 2.60                        | <.01    |
| Severe hospitalization (length of stay >7 days or need for IBD-related surgery) (%)      | 10.4                            | 15.4                        | <.01    |
| Unplanned hospitalization (%)  | 28.3                            | 37.6                        | <.01    |
| Preventable hospitalization (%)  | 3.6                             | 7.7                         | <.01    |
| IBD-related procedures (%)   | 14.1                            | 13.5                        | .106    |
| IBD-related surgery (%)  | 2.02                            | 1.04                        | <.01    |
| Annual burden and costs of hospitalization   |                                 |                             |         |
| Total follow-up time (months), median (IQR)  | 10 (7–11)                       | 10 (8–11)                   | <.01    |
| Annual days spent in the hospital (including during index hospitalization), median (IQR) | 5 (3–10)                        | 9 (4–18)                    | <.01    |
| Annual costs across all hospitalizations (in dollars), median (IQR)                      | 10,924 (5571–22,632)            | 17,791 (8368–38,942)        | <.01    |

IBD, inflammatory bowel disease; IQR, interquartile range.



**Figure 1.** Longitudinal outcomes in frail vs non-frail patients with IBD after index hospitalization: (A) readmission, (B) inpatient mortality, (C) severe hospitalization (length of stay >7 days or need for IBD-related surgery), and (D) IBD-related surgery. IBD, inflammatory bowel disease.

**Table 3.** Cox Proportional Hazard Analysis Evaluating Risk of Readmission by Frailty Risk Score

| Variable   | Hazard ratio<br>(95% confidence interval) | P value |
|--|---|---------|
| Frailty risk score<br>(moderate/high vs low)                 | 1.21 (1.17–1.25)                          | <.01    |
| Age (per 1-y increase)                                       | 0.99 (0.99–0.99)                          | <.01    |
| Charlson Comorbidity Index (reference group: 0)              |   |         |
| • 1  | 1.24 (1.20–1.30)                          | <.01    |
| • 2 or more  | 1.66 (1.60–1.72)                          | <.01    |
| Length of stay at index hospitalization (per 1-day increase) | 1.01 (1.00–1.01)                          | <.01    |
| Gender (women vs men)  | 0.98 (0.95–1.01)                          | .16     |
| Obese (yes vs no)  | 0.95 (0.91–1.00)                          | .06     |
| Depression (yes vs no)                                       | 1.19 (1.14–1.24)                          | <.01    |
| Median household income (per quartile increase)              | 0.96 (0.94–0.97)                          | <.01    |
| Reason for index hospitalization (IBD vs non-IBD)            | 1.18 (1.14–1.22)                          | <.01    |

IBD, inflammatory bowel disease.

balance” (47.8% of patients), “Other and unspecified anemias” (24.7% of patients), “Personal history of certain other diseases” (13.4% of patients), “Acute renal failure” (11.5% of patients), and “Chronic kidney disease” (9.4% of patients).

### Longitudinal Outcomes in Frail vs Non-Frail Patients

Patients were followed over median of 10 months after index hospitalization. Patients with IBD with frailty had significantly higher rate of readmission within 6 months (41.2% vs 33.2%,  $P < .01$ ), inpatient mortality (2.6% vs 0.7%,  $P < .01$ ), risk of severe hospitalizations (15.4% vs 10.4%,  $P < .01$ ), and unplanned hospitalization (37.6% vs 28.3%,  $P < .01$ ), as compared with non-frail IBD patients (Table 2). Frail patients were also less likely to undergo IBD-related surgery (1.04% vs 2.02%,  $P < .01$ ), although no differences were observed in risk of IBD-related procedures (13.5% vs 14.1%,  $P = .11$ ), as compared with non-frail patients. Frail patients also had a shorter time to readmission, inpatient mortality, and severe hospitalization as compared with non-frail patients (Figure 1A–C).

On multivariable analysis, adjusting for age, sex, household income, CCI score, obesity, depression, length of stay,

**Table 4.** Cox Proportional Hazard Analysis Evaluating Risk of Inpatient Mortality by Frailty Risk Score

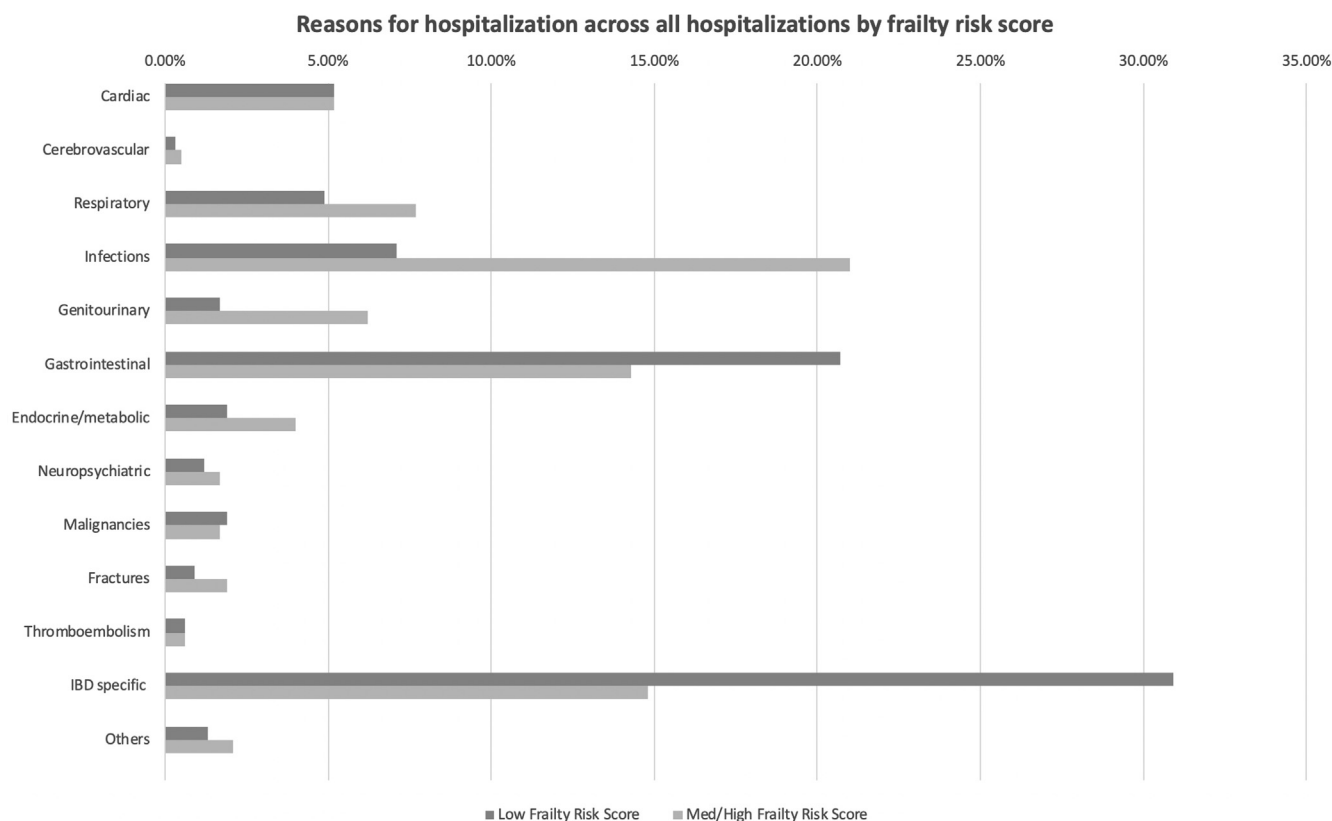
| Variable  | Hazard ratio<br>(95% confidence interval) | P value |
|---|---|---------|
| Frailty risk score<br>(moderate/high vs low)    | 1.57 (1.34–1.83)                          | <.01    |
| Age (per 1-y increase)                          | 1.02 (1.02–1.03)                          | <.01    |
| Charlson Comorbidity Index (reference group: 0) |   |         |
| • 1   | 2.71 (2.09–3.53)                          | <.01    |
| • 2 or more                                     | 7.86 (6.30–9.81)                          | <.01    |
| Length of stay (per 1-day increase)             | 1.02 (1.01–1.02)                          | <.01    |
| Gender (women vs men)                           | 0.89 (0.77–1.02)                          | .11     |
| Obese (yes vs no)                               | 0.70 (0.52–0.92)                          | .01     |
| Depression (yes vs no)                          | 0.70 (0.55–0.88)                          | <.01    |
| Median household income (per quartile increase) | 1.05 (0.98–1.12)                          | .14     |

NOTE. Reason for index hospitalization (IBD-related vs non-IBD-related) was removed because of  $P > .2$ .

and reason for index admission, frailty was independently associated with 21% higher risk of readmission (adjusted hazard ratio [aHR], 1.21; 95% confidence interval, 1.17–1.25) (Table 3), 57% higher risk of mortality (aHR, 1.57 [1.34–1.83]) (Table 4), and 22% higher risk of IBD-related severe hospitalization (aHR, 1.22 [1.16–1.29]). Frailty was also independently associated with 22% lower risk of IBD-related surgery (aHR, 0.78 [0.66–0.91]) (Supplementary Table 7). This independent impact of frailty on risk of readmission, inpatient mortality, and severe hospitalization was observed on several stratified analyses: patients with vs without significant comorbidities (CCI 1 or more vs CCI = 0), patients with severe vs non-severe index hospitalization, and patients with index hospitalization due to IBD vs not related to IBD (Supplementary Table 8).

### Annual Burden and Costs of Hospitalization by Frailty Status

Patients with IBD with frailty spent more days in the hospital annually as compared with non-frail patients (median [interquartile range]: 9 days [4–18] vs 5 days [3–10],  $P < .01$ ) and had higher annual costs of hospitalization (\$17,791 [\$8368–\$38,942] vs \$10,924 [\$5571–\$22,632],  $P < .01$ ) (Table 2). Averaged over total follow-up time, frail patients spent more days in hospital per month (0.9 days/month [0.44–1.9] vs 0.5 days/month [0.27–1.0],  $P < .01$ ), with higher monthly cost of



**Figure 2.** Causes for hospitalization in frail vs non-frail patients with IBD. IBD, inflammatory bowel disease.

hospitalization (\$1882/month [\$886–\$4008] vs \$1158/month [\$595–\$2376]).

### *Reasons for Hospitalization by Frailty Status*

Across all hospitalizations, frail patients with IBD were significantly less likely to be hospitalized primarily for gastrointestinal symptoms (14.3% vs 20.7%,  $P < .01$ ) or specifically for IBD flare (14.8% vs 30.9%,  $P < .01$ ). However, frail patients were significantly more likely to be hospitalized for serious infections (21.0% vs 7.1%,  $P < .01$ ) and for respiratory causes (7.7% vs 4.9%,  $P < .01$ ) or fractures (1.9% vs 0.9%,  $P < .01$ ) (Figure 2). Overall, frail patients with IBD were significantly more likely than non-frail IBD patients to experience preventable admissions (27.5% vs 14%,  $P < .01$ ).

## **Discussion**

As the prevalence of IBD increases in older patients, treatment options improve patient longevity, and extra-intestinal manifestations compromise overall health status, it is imperative to identify patients who may be at high risk of disease-related vs treatment-related complication risks. In this nationally representative longitudinal study using NRD, which captures more than 85% of all hospital discharges in 21 states, and the validated Hospital Frailty Risk Score, we made several key observations regarding the prognostic impact of

frailty in hospitalized adults with IBD. First, we observed approximately one-third of hospitalized adults with IBD may be classified as frail. As anticipated, frail patients were older and had a higher burden of comorbidities. However, approximately half the patients classified as frail were younger than 65 years, and 42% did not have any significant comorbidities. This helps to highlight a distinct profile of frail patients. Second, we observed that frailty was independently associated with a significantly higher burden and costs of hospitalization, risk of readmission, and inpatient mortality, even after adjustment for age, comorbidities, and severity and indication for index admission. Third, the most common reason for readmission in frail patients with IBD was infection-related or related to cardiorespiratory compromise, in contrast to a higher burden of IBD-related hospitalization in non-frail patients with IBD. Frail patients were also likely to undergo IBD-related surgery, although no differences were observed in rates of IBD-related endoscopic procedures. Overall, these findings suggest higher burden of hospitalization and mortality in frail patients with IBD that may be driven by treatment-related or non-IBD-related complications. Frailty can serve as an important prognostic factor in risk-stratifying patients with IBD and inform optimal treatment approach.

Several studies have identified that older age is independently associated with higher risk of serious infections, hospitalization, and intolerance to immunosuppressive agents in patients with IBD.<sup>5–8,21</sup> Yet, other

studies have suggested that selective use of an algorithmic treatment step-up strategy in older patients with suboptimal disease control may be safe and effective in decreasing treatment disutility and avoid persistence on chronic corticosteroids.<sup>22</sup> This suggests that chronological age is not an ideal metric to inform treatment approach. On the other hand, frailty, characterized by a decline in functioning across multiple physiological systems, accompanied by an increased vulnerability to stressors, has been more consistently associated with adverse health outcomes across a spectrum of conditions. Frailty has been associated with higher mortality, hospitalization, and disability in the general population and specifically with adverse outcomes after kidney and liver transplantation and elective and emergency surgery.<sup>14,23–27</sup> Frailty has not been well-studied in patients with IBD to date. In a systematic review, Asscher et al<sup>28</sup> highlighted that comprehensive geriatric assessment, including frailty assessment, was often not performed in older patients with IBD. In a recent electronic health record-based study in immunosuppressive-treated patients with IBD, Kochar et al<sup>15</sup> observed that pretreatment frailty assessed using a similar code-based algorithm was present in ~12% patients and was associated with 1.8- to 2.0-fold higher risk of serious infections in these patients. The prevalence of frailty rates was higher in our cohort, which may be due to differences in patient population; we focused only on hospitalized adults with IBD. Nonetheless, we confirmed their observation that frail patients with IBD are more likely to be hospitalized for serious infections rather than for direct disease-related complications.

We focused on relatively short-term outcomes after a diagnosis of frailty. This was, in part, a limitation inherent to the database, which only tracks patients longitudinally within a calendar year. However, it is also important to recognize that frailty is a dynamic state, arising because of dysregulated, often interconnected, stress response, across immune, endocrine, and energy response systems, and may occur even in absence of a clear disease state or because of failure to rebound after illness or hospitalization. Frailty may be mitigated or possibly prevented through targeted interventions such as precise physical rehabilitation strategies, nutritional counseling and supplementation, and cognitive training.<sup>29,30</sup> Hence, attributing long-term adverse health outcomes after a one-time diagnosis of “frailty” may be challenging and better analyzed through repeated measures of frailty.

The strengths of our study include (1) innovative use of a nationally representative database, which was designed for the study of readmission risk and hospital-related outcomes, (2) comprehensive implementation of validated code-based frailty risk score algorithm to identify patients at low, medium, and high risk of frailty, (3) thorough evaluation of multiple adverse health outcomes around unplanned healthcare utilization, adjusting for important confounders, and (4) assessment of

reasons for hospitalizations, including preventable and nonpreventable admissions. Although our study draws its strength from a large sample of patients who were longitudinally followed over the course of a year, it has some limitations. First, all analyses are based on administrative codes and CCS, which have inherent limitations with regard to misclassification of IBD diagnosis (especially in older patients), as well as with regard to causes of admissions. Second, in using the Hospital Frailty Risk Score, we combined patients at medium to high risk of frailty and classified them as frail. Frailty status was determined cross-sectionally at a single time point. Frailty is a dynamic, multidomain concept, encompassing somatic, mental, functional, and social status, that extends along a spectrum rather than being binary.<sup>31</sup> Future prospective studies would focus on examining all these domains of frailty, repeatedly over time, and evaluate its evolution and impact on adverse health outcomes in patients with IBD. Third, our analyses only focused on hospitalized patients, without details of outpatient clinic visits, medication use, and subjective and objective disease activity assessment, which may more comprehensively explain the differential outcomes observed between frail and non-frail IBD patients. Fourth, causes of readmissions were based on primary discharge diagnoses and grouped by system for ease of interpretation, which could result in potential misclassification and be somewhat biased because of reimbursement practices. Fifth, although the frailty risk scoring codes include physical function components such as hemiplegia, abnormal gait, fracture, and care involving rehabilitation procedures, no objective physical performance measures were assessed. Finally, NRD is inherently limited because it captures admissions only within state boundaries, is limited to 1 calendar year, and does not capture out-of-hospital mortality.

In summary, we observed that frailty is prevalent in approximately one-third of hospitalized adults with IBD. Frail patients have significantly higher burden and costs of hospitalization, higher risk of unplanned and preventable hospitalizations, and higher in-hospital mortality. Infections, rather than IBD-related causes, are the leading cause of hospitalization in frail patients. Future prospective studies incorporating routine assessment of multiple domains of frailty using validated scales, objective sarcopenia and physical function measurement, and eventual rehabilitation intervention to prevent or treat frailty are warranted to better inform the impact of frailty and its treatment in the management of patients with IBD.

## Supplementary Material

Note: To access the supplementary material accompanying this article, visit the online version of *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology* at [www.cghjournal.org](http://www.cghjournal.org), and at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cgh.2020.08.010>.



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### Reprint requests

Address requests for reprints to: Siddharth Singh, MD, MS, Division of Gastroenterology, University of California San Diego, 9452 Medical Center Drive, ACTRI 1W501, La Jolla, California 92093. e-mail: [sis040@ucsd.edu](mailto:sis040@ucsd.edu); fax: (858) 657-7259.

### CRedit Authorship Contributions

■■■

### Conflicts of interest

These authors disclose the following: JE has been Team Leader of the Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Physical Therapy, and Exercise Clinical Practice Guideline Team. WJS has received research grants from Atlantic Healthcare Limited, Amgen, Genentech, Gilead Sciences, AbbVie, Janssen, Takeda, Lilly, Celgene/Receptos, Pfizer, Prometheus Laboratories (now Prometheus Biosciences); consulting fees from AbbVie, Allergan, Amgen, Arena Pharmaceuticals, Avexigen Therapeutics, BeiGene, Boehringer Ingelheim, Celgene,

Celltrion, Conatus, Cosmo, Escalier Biosciences, Ferring, Forbion, Genentech, Gilead Sciences, Gossamer Bio, Incyte, Janssen, Kyowa Kirin Pharmaceutical Research, Landos Biopharma, Lilly, Oppilan Pharma, Otsuka, Pfizer, Progenity, Prometheus Biosciences (merger of Precision IBD and Prometheus Laboratories), Reistone, Ritter Pharmaceuticals, Roberts Clinical Trials (owned by Health Academic Research Trust, HART), Series Therapeutics, Shire, Sienna Biopharmaceuticals, Sigmoid Biotechnologies, Sterna Biologicals, Sublimity Therapeutics, Takeda, Theravance Biopharma, Tigenix, Tillotts Pharma, UCB Pharma, Ventyx Biosciences, Vimalan Biosciences, and Vivelix Pharmaceuticals; and stock or stock options from BeiGene, Escalier Biosciences, Gossamer Bio, Oppilan Pharma, Prometheus Biosciences (merger of Precision IBD and Prometheus Laboratories), Progenity, Ritter Pharmaceuticals, Ventyx Biosciences, Vimalan Biosciences. His spouse has received the following: Ophtotech - consultant, stock options; Progenity - consultant, stock; Oppilan

Pharma - employee, stock options; Escalier Biosciences - employee, stock options; Prometheus Biosciences (merger of Precision IBD and Prometheus Laboratories) - employee, stock options; Ventyx Biosciences - employee, stock options; and Vimalan Biosciences - employee, stock options. SS has received research grants from AbbVie and Janssen. The remaining authors disclose no conflicts.

#### Funding

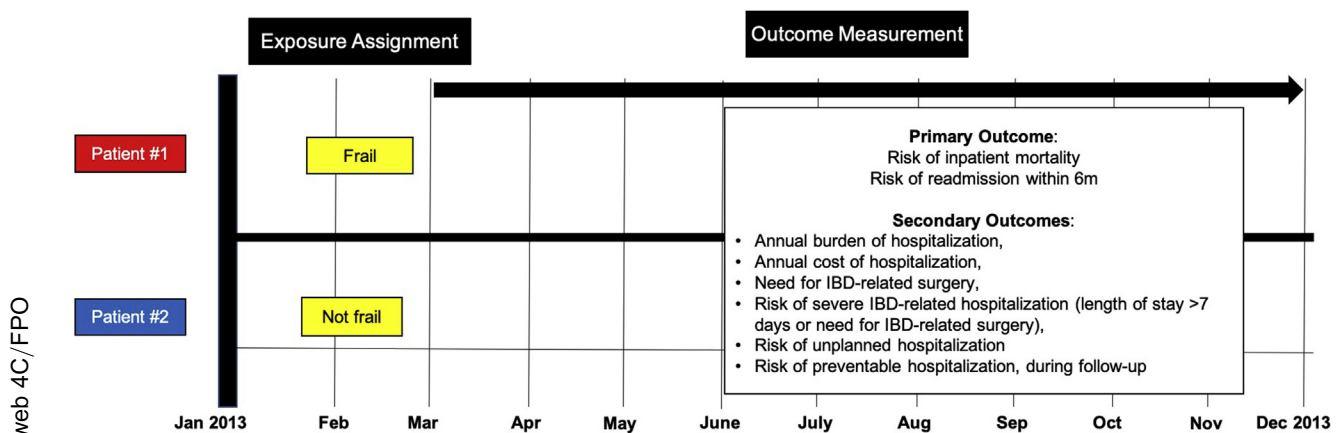
Dr Nguyen is supported by NIH/NIDDK (T32DK007202). Dr Sandborn is partially supported by NIDDK-funded San Diego Digestive Diseases Research Center (P30 DK120515). Dr Singh is supported by NIH/NIDDK (K23DK117058), IOIBD Operating Grant 2019, and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation Career Development Award (#404614).

## Supplementary Methods

### *Clinical Classifications Software Codes*

The single level CCS code for IBD (144) is based on ICD-9 codes for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis (555.0, 555.1, 555.2, 555.9, 556.0, 556.1, 556.2, 556.3, 556.4, 556.5, 556.6, 556.8, and 556.9). CCS has been used

in managed care plans to rank hospitalizations by type of condition, by insurers to develop clinically based utilization profiles, by researchers to explore the types of conditions and procedures that are most frequent in their study populations or to compare alternative treatments for similar conditions, and in risk adjustment models and as a way to predict future health resource utilization.



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Study design with cohort selection, exposure assignment, and outcome ascertainment. IBD, inflammatory bowel disease.

**Supplementary Table 1.** ICD-9 Revision Codes Used to Identify Frailty Risk Score

| ICD 9 codes | ICD-9 condition   | Points |
|-------------|---|--------|
| 2900        | Senile dementia, uncomplicated  | 7.1    |
| 2941        | Dementia in conditions classified elsewhere                                       | 7.1    |
| 342         | Hemiplegia  | 4.4    |
| 3310        | Alzheimer's disease   | 4      |
| 438         | Late effects of cerebrovascular disease   | 3.7    |
| V1588       | History of fall   | 3.6    |
| 788         | Symptoms involving urinary system   | 3.2    |
| 6256        | Stress incontinence, female   | 3.2    |
| 5990        | Urinary tract infection   | 3.2    |
| 2930        | Delirium due to conditions classified elsewhere                                   | 3.2    |
| E8889       | Unspecified fall  | 3.2    |
| 920         | Contusion of face, scalp, and neck except eye(s)                                  | 3.2    |
| 921         | Contusion of eye and adnexa   | 3.2    |
| 5997        | Hematuria   | 3      |
| 041         | Bacterial infection in conditions classified elsewhere<br>and of unspecified site | 2.9    |
| 482         | Other bacterial pneumonia   | 2.9    |
| 483         | Pneumonia due to other specified organism   | 2.9    |
| 78097       | Altered mental status   | 2.7    |
| 7812        | Abnormality of gait   | 2.6    |
| 437         | Other and ill-defined cerebrovascular disease                                     | 2.6    |
| 7803        | Convulsions   | 2.6    |
| 7800        | Alterations of consciousness  | 2.5    |
| 99676       | Other complications due to genitourinary device,<br>implant, and graft            | 2.4    |
| 850         | Concussion  | 2.4    |
| 851         | Cerebral laceration and contusion   | 2.4    |
| 852         | Subarachnoid subdural and extradural hemorrhage<br>following injury               | 2.4    |
| 853         | Other and unspecified intracranial hemorrhage<br>following injury                 | 2.4    |
| 854         | Intracranial injury of other and unspecified nature                               | 2.4    |
| 810         | Fracture of clavicle  | 2.3    |
| 811         | Fracture of scapula   | 2.3    |
| 812         | Fracture of humerus   | 2.3    |
| 818         | Ill-defined fractures of upper limb   | 2.3    |
| 276         | Disorders of fluid electrolyte and acid-base balance                              | 2.3    |
| 719         | Other and unspecified disorders of joint  | 2.3    |
| 797         | Senility without mention of psychosis   | 2.2    |
| V57         | Care involving use of rehabilitation procedures                                   | 2.1    |
| 2909        | Unspecified senile psychotic condition  | 2.1    |
| V63         | Unavailability of other medical facilities for care                               | 2      |



Supplementary Table 1. Continued

| ICD 9 codes | ICD-9 condition  | Points |
|-------------|--|--------|
| 2904        | Vascular dementia  | 2      |
| 924         | Contusion of lower limb and of other and unspecified sites         | 2      |
| 682         | Other cellulitis and abscess                                       | 2      |
| 369         | Blindness and low vision   | 1.9    |
| 266         | Deficiency of b-complex components                                 | 1.9    |
| V62         | Other psychosocial circumstances                                   | 1.8    |
| 332         | Parkinson's disease  | 1.8    |
| 7802        | Syncope and collapse   | 1.8    |
| 807         | Fracture of rib(s) sternum larynx and trachea                      | 1.8    |
| 564         | Functional digestive disorders not elsewhere classified            | 1.8    |
| 584         | Acute renal failure  | 1.8    |
| 7070        | Pressure ulcer   | 1.7    |
| 7072        | Pressure ulcer stages  | 1.7    |
| V02         | Carrier of infectious disease                                      | 1.7    |
| 7071        | Ulcer of lower limbs, except decubitus ulcer                       | 1.6    |
| 7801        | Hallucinations   | 1.6    |
| 532         | Duodenal ulcer   | 1.6    |
| 458         | Hypotension  | 1.6    |
| 586         | Unspecified renal failure  | 1.6    |
| 99591       | Sepsis   | 1.6    |
| 038         | Septicemia   | 1.6    |
| V12         | Personal history of certain other diseases                         | 1.5    |
| 5188        | Other diseases of lung   | 1.5    |
| 715         | Osteoarthritis and allied disorders                                | 1.5    |
| 345         | Epilepsy and recurrent seizures                                    | 1.5    |
| 7330        | Osteoporosis   | 1.4    |
| 821         | Fracture of other parts of femur                                   | 1.4    |
| 820         | Fracture of neck of femur  | 1.4    |
| 808         | Fracture of pelvis   | 1.4    |
| 805         | Fracture of vertebral column without mention of spinal cord injury | 1.4    |
| 251         | Other disorders of pancreatic internal secretion                   | 1.4    |
| 794         | Abnormal results of function studies                               | 1.4    |
| 585         | Chronic kidney disease   | 1.4    |
| 7882        | Retention of urine   | 1.3    |
| 7999        | Other unknown and unspecified cause of morbidity and mortality     | 1.3    |
| 593         | Other disorders of kidney and ureter                               | 1.3    |
| 78830       | Urinary incontinence, unspecified                                  | 1.2    |
| 3311-3319   | Other cerebral degenerations (excluding Alzheimer's)               | 1.2    |
| 9590        | Other and unspecified injury to head face and neck                 | 1.2    |

Supplementary Table 1. Continued

| ICD 9 codes | ICD-9 condition   | Points |
|-------------|---|--------|
| 7992        | Nervousness   | 1.2    |
| 435         | Transient cerebral ischemia   | 1.2    |
| V6089       | Other specified housing or economic circumstances   | 1.1    |
| 729         | Other disorders of soft tissues   | 1.1    |
| E8844       | Accidental fall from bed  | 1.1    |
| 873         | Other open wound of head  | 1.1    |
| 008         | Intestinal infections due to other organisms  | 1.1    |
| 009         | Infectious colitis, enteritis, and gastroenteritis  | 1.1    |
| 486         | Pneumonia, organism unspecified   | 1.1    |
| 485         | Bronchopneumonia, organism unspecified  | 1.1    |
| 481         | Pneumococcal pneumonia  | 1.1    |
| 507         | Pneumonitis due to solids and liquids   | 1      |
| 7845        | Other speech disturbance  | 1      |
| 268         | Vitamin D deficiency  | 1      |
| V44         | Artificial opening status   | 1      |
| 7854        | Gangrene  | 1      |
| 783         | Symptoms concerning nutrition metabolism and development  | 0.9    |
| 3898        | Other specified forms of hearing loss   | 0.9    |
| E880        | Accidental fall on or from stairs or steps  | 0.9    |
| E885        | Fall on same level from slipping, tripping and stumbling  | 0.9    |
| 242         | Thyrotoxicosis with or without goiter   | 0.9    |
| 7373        | Kyphoscoliosis and scoliosis  | 0.9    |
| 7872        | Dysphagia   | 0.8    |
| V468        | Dependence on other enabling machines   | 0.8    |
| V097        | Infection with microorganisms resistant to other specified antimycobacterial agents   | 0.8    |
| 7331        | Pathologic fracture   | 0.8    |
| 578         | Gastrointestinal hemorrhage   | 0.8    |
| 538         | Gastrointestinal mucositis (ulcerative)   | 0.8    |
| 56989       | Other specified disorders of intestine  | 0.8    |
| 5699        | Unspecified disorder of intestine   | 0.8    |
| 43401       | Cerebral thrombosis with cerebral infarction  | 0.8    |
| 43411       | Cerebral embolism with cerebral infarction  | 0.8    |
| 43491       | Cerebral artery occlusion, unspecified with cerebral infarction   | 0.8    |
| 592         | Calculus of kidney and ureter   | 0.7    |
| 303         | Alcohol dependence syndrome   | 0.7    |
| 3050        | Nondependent alcohol abuse  | 0.7    |
| 879         | Other procedures without mention of misadventure at the time of procedure as the cause of abnormal reaction of patient or of later complication | 0.7    |

Supplementary Table 1. Continued

| ICD 9 codes | ICD-9 condition  | Points |
|-------------|--|--------|
| 7850        | Tachycardia, unspecified   | 0.7    |
| 7851        | Palpitations   | 0.7    |
| 7853        | Other abnormal heart sounds  | 0.7    |
| 5198        | Other diseases of respiratory system, not elsewhere classified                       | 0.7    |
| V69         | Problems related to lifestyle  | 0.6    |
| 7906        | Other abnormal findings of blood chemistry   | 0.6    |
| V15         | Other personal history presenting hazards to health                                  | 0.5    |
| 881         | Open wound of elbow forearm and wrist  | 0.5    |
| 2962        | Major depressive disorder single episode   | 0.5    |
| 2963        | Major depressive disorder recurrent episode  | 0.5    |
| 7240        | Spinal stenosis other than cervical  | 0.5    |
| 7230        | Spinal stenosis in cervical region   | 0.5    |
| 275         | Disorders of mineral metabolism  | 0.4    |
| 6868        | Other specified local infections of skin and subcutaneous tissue (approximate match) | 0.4    |
| 285         | Other and unspecified anemias  | 0.4    |
| 686         | Other local infections of skin and subcutaneous tissue                               | 0.4    |
| 7870        | Nausea and vomiting  | 0.3    |
| 558         | Other and unspecified noninfectious gastroenteritis and colitis                      | 0.3    |
| 7806        | Fever and other physiologic disturbances of temperature regulation                   | 0.1    |

ICD-9, International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision.

**Supplementary Table 2.** ICD-9-CM Coding Algorithm for Charlson Comorbidity Index

| Comorbidities   | Charlson's ICD-9-CM                             | Weight |
|---|---|--------|
| Myocardial infarction   | 410.x, 412.x                                    | 1      |
| Congestive heart failure  | 428.x   | 1      |
| Peripheral vascular disease   | 443.9, 441.x, 785.4, V43.4.<br>Procedure 38.48  | 1      |
| Cerebrovascular disease   | 430.x-438.x                                     | 1      |
| Dementia  | 290.x   | 1      |
| Chronic pulmonary disease   | 490.x-505.x, 506.4                              | 1      |
| Rheumatic disease   | 710.0, 710.1, 710.4, 714.0-714.2, 714.81, 725.x | 1      |
| Peptic ulcer disease  | 531.x-534.x                                     | 1      |
| Mild liver disease  | 571.2, 571.4-571.6                              | 1      |
| Diabetes without chronic complication   | 250.0-250.3, 250.7                              | 1      |
| Diabetes with chronic complication  | 250.4-250.6                                     | 1      |
| Hemiplegia or paraplegia  | 344.1, 342.x                                    | 2      |
| Renal disease   | 582.x, 583-583.7, 585.x, 586.x, 588.x           | 2      |
| Any malignancy, including lymphoma and leukemia,<br>except malignant neoplasm of skin | 140.x-172.x, 174.x-195.8, 200.x-208.x           | 2      |
| Moderate or severe liver disease  | 456.0-456.21, 572.2-572.8                       | 2      |
| Metastatic solid tumor  | 196.x-199.1                                     | 6      |
| AIDS/HIV  | 042.x-044.x                                     | 6      |

AIDS/HIV, acquired immune deficiency syndrome/human immunodeficiency virus; ICD-9-CM, International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision-Clinical Modification.



**Supplementary Table 3.** Diagnosis and Procedure Codes, ICD-9-CM and CCS, Used in Classifying Patients

| Diagnoses/procedures                   | PRCCS (CCS codes for procedures) DXCCS (CCS codes for diagnoses)  | Description of corresponding CCS codes   |
|--|---|--|
| Procedures                             |   |  |
| Gastrointestinal or hepatic procedures | 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 87, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 221 | 68 – Injection or ligation of esophageal varices<br>69 – Esophageal dilatation<br>70 – Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy, biopsy<br>71 – Gastrostomy, temporary and permanent<br>72 – Colostomy, temporary and permanent<br>73 – Ileostomy and other enterostomy<br>74 – Gastrectomy, partial and total<br>75 – Small bowel resection<br>76 – Colonoscopy and biopsy<br>77 – Proctoscopy and anorectal biopsy<br>78 – Colorectal resection<br>79 – Local excision of large intestine lesion (not endoscopy)<br>80 – Appendectomy<br>81 – Hemorrhoid procedures<br>82 – Endoscopic retrograde cannulation of pancreas (ERCP)<br>83 – Biopsy of liver<br>84 – Cholecystectomy and common duct exploration<br>87 – Laparoscopy<br>88 – Abdominal paracentesis<br>89 – Exploratory laparotomy<br>90 – Excision, lysis peritoneal adhesions<br>92 – Other bowel diagnostic procedures<br>93 – Other non-OR upper GI therapeutic procedures<br>94 – Other OR upper GI therapeutic procedures<br>95 – Other non-OR upper GI therapeutic procedures<br>96 – Other OR lower GI therapeutic procedures<br>97 – Other gastrointestinal diagnostic procedures<br>98 – Other non-OR gastrointestinal therapeutic procedures<br>99 – Other OR gastrointestinal therapeutic procedures<br>221 – Nasogastric tube |
| Gastrointestinal surgeries             | 72, 73, 75, 78, 79, 89, 90  | 72 – Colostomy, temporary and permanent<br>73 – Ileostomy and other enterostomy<br>75 – Small bowel resection<br>78 – Colorectal resection<br>79 – Local excision of large intestine lesion (not endoscopic)<br>89 – Exploratory laparotomy<br>90 – Excision, lysis peritoneal adhesions   |
| Blood transfusions                     | 222   |  |
| Parenteral or enteral nutrition        | 223   |  |

Supplementary Table 3. Continued

| Diagnoses/procedures                     | PRCCS (CCS codes for procedures) DXCCS (CCS codes for diagnoses)                   | Description of corresponding CCS codes   |
|--|--|--|
| Inflammatory bowel related procedures    | 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 81, 87, 89, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99 | 70 – Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy, biopsy<br>71 – Gastrostomy, temporary and permanent<br>72 – Colostomy, temporary and permanent<br>73 – Ileostomy and other enterostomy<br>74 – Gastrectomy, partial and total<br>75 – Small bowel resection<br>76 – Colonoscopy and biopsy<br>77 – Proctoscopy and anorectal biopsy<br>78 – Colorectal resection<br>79 – Local excision of large intestine lesion (not endoscopy)<br>81 – Hemorrhoid procedures<br>87 – Laparoscopy<br>89 – Exploratory laparotomy<br>92 – Other bowel diagnostic procedures<br>93 – Other non-OR upper GI therapeutic procedures<br>94 – Other OR upper GI therapeutic procedures<br>95 – Other non-OR upper GI therapeutic procedures<br>96 – Other OR lower GI therapeutic procedures<br>97 – Other gastrointestinal diagnostic procedures<br>98 – Other non-OR gastrointestinal therapeutic procedures<br>99 – Other OR gastrointestinal therapeutic procedures |
| Surgeries                                |  |  |
| Colostomy                                | 72   |  |
| Ileostomy                                | 73   |  |
| Small bowel resection                    | 75   |  |
| Colorectal resection                     | 78   |  |
| Local excision of large intestine lesion | 79   |  |
| Exploratory laparotomy                   | 89   |  |
| Excision, lysis peritoneal adhesions     | 90   |  |

CCS, Clinical Classifications Software; GI, gastrointestinal; ICD-9-CM, International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision-Clinical Modification.

**Supplementary Table 4.** ICD-9-CM Coding For Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Preventive Quality Indicators<sup>a</sup>

| PQI number | Preventive Quality Indicator                                    | Definition <sup>a</sup>   | ICD-9 codes  |
|------------|---|---|--|
| 1          | Diabetes short-term complications                               | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis for diabetes short-term complications (ketoacidosis, hyperosmolarity, or coma)   | 250.10, 250.11, 250.12, 250.13, 250.20, 250.21, 250.22, 250.23, 250.30, 250.31, 250.32, 250.33   |
| 2          | Perforated appendix   | Discharges with any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for perforations or abscesses of appendix   | 540.0, 540.1, 540.9, 541   |
| 3          | Diabetes long-term complications                                | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for diabetes with long-term complications (renal, eye, neurological, circulatory, or complications not otherwise specified)   | 250.40, 250.41, 250.42, 250.43, 250.50, 250.51, 250.52, 250.53, 250.60, 250.61, 250.62, 250.63, 250.70, 250.71, 250.72, 250.73, 250.80, 250.81, 250.82, 250.83, 250.90, 250.91, 250.92, 250.93   |
| 5          | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or asthma in older adults | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for COPD or asthma<br>Excluded cases<br>Any listed ICD-9-CM codes for cystic fibrosis and anomalies of the respiratory system | COPD (excluding acute bronchitis)<br>491.0, 491.1, 491.20, 491.21, 491.22, 491.8, 491.9, 492.0, 492.8, 494, 494.0, 494.1, 496<br>Asthma<br>493.00, 493.01, 493.02, 493.10, 493.11, 493.12, 493.20, 493.21, 493.22, 493.81, 493.82, 493.90, 493.91, 493.92<br>Excluded cases<br>277.0, 277.01, 277.02, 277.03, 277.09, 516.61, 516.62, 516.63, 516.64, 516.69, 747.21, 748.3, 748.4, 748.5, 748.60, 748.61, 748.69, 748.8, 748.9, 750.3, 759.3, 770.7 |

Supplementary Table 4. Continued

| PQI number | Preventive Quality Indicator | Definition <sup>a</sup>   | ICD-9 codes   |
|------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 7          | Hypertension                 | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for hypertension<br>Excluded cases<br>With any listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for cardiac procedure or any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for Stage I-IV kidney disease, only if accompanied by any listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for dialysis access                                   | 401.0, 401.9, 402.00, 402.10, 402.90, 403.00, 403.10, 403.90, 404.00, 404.10, 404.90<br>Excluded cases<br>403.00, 403.10, 404.00, 404.10, 404.90<br>Procedure codes<br>00.50, 00.51, 00.52, 00.53, 00.54, 00.56, 00.57, 00.66, 17.51, 17.52, 17.55, 35.00, 35.01, 35.02, 35.03, 35.04, 35.05, 35.06, 35.07, 35.08, 35.09, 35.10, 35.11, 35.12, 35.13, 35.14, 35.20, 35.22, 35.23, 35.24, 35.25, 35.26, 35.27, 35.28, 35.31, 35.32, 35.33, 35.34, 35.35, 35.39, 35.41, 35.42, 35.35, 35.39, 35.41, 35.42, 35.50, 35.51, 35.52, 35.53, 35.54, 35.55, 35.60, 35.61, 35.62, 35.63, 35.70, 35.71, 35.72, 35.73, 35.81, 35.82, 35.83, 35.84, 35.91, 35.92, 35.93, 35.94, 35.95, 35.96, 35.97, 35.98, 35.99, 36.01, 36.02, 36.03, 36.04, 36.05, 36.06, 36.07, 36.09, 36.10, 36.11, 36.12, 36.13, 36.14, 36.15, 36.16, 36.17, 36.19, 36.2, 36.3, 36.31, 36.32, 36.33, 36.34, 36.39, 36.91, 36.99, 37.31, 37.32, 37.33, 37.34, 37.35, 37.36, 37.37, 37.41, 37.5, 37.51, 37.52, 37.53, 37.54, 37.55, 37.60, 37.61, 37.62, 37.63, 37.64, 37.65, 37.66, 37.70, 37.71, 37.72, 37.73, 37.74, 37.75, 37.76, 37.77, 37.78, 37.79, 37.80, 37.81, 37.82, 37.83, 37.85, 37.86, 37.87, 37.89, 37.94, 37.95, 37.96, 37.97, 37.98, 38.26<br>38.95, 39.27, 39.29, 39.42, 39.43, 39.93, 39.94 |
| 8          | Congestive heart failure     | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for heart failure   | 398.91, 402.01, 402.11, 402.91, 404.01, 404.03, 404.11, 404.13, 404.91, 404.93, 428.0, 428.1, 428.20, 428.21, 428.22, 428.23, 428.30, 428.31, 428.32, 428.33, 428.40, 428.41, 428.42, 428.43, 428.9   |
| 10         | Dehydration                  | Discharges with either principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for dehydration or any secondary ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for dehydration and principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for hyperosmolality and/or hypernatremia, gastroenteritis, or acute kidney injury<br>Excluded cases<br>Any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for chronic renal failure | 276.5, 276.50, 276.51, 276.52, 276.0, 008.61, 008.62, 008.63, 008.64, 008.65, 008.66, 008.67, 008.69, 008.8, 009.0, 009.1, 009.2, 009.3, 558.9, 584.5, 584.6, 584.7, 584.8, 584.9, 586, 997.5<br>Exclude cases<br>403.01, 403.11, 403.91, 404.02, 404.03, 404.12, 404.13, 404.92, 404.93, 585.5, 585.6  |



Supplementary Table 4. Continued

| PQI number | Preventive Quality Indicator | Definition <sup>a</sup>  | ICD-9 codes   |
|------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| 11         | Bacterial pneumonia          | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for bacterial pneumonia<br>Excluded cases<br>Any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for sickle cell anemia or HB-S disease. Any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes or any listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for immunocompromised state          | 481, 4822, 48230, 48231, 48232, 48239, 48240, 48241, 48242, 48249, 4829, 4830, 4831, 4838, 485, 486<br>Excluded cases<br>42, 136.3, 199.2, 238.73, 238.76, 238.77, 238.79, 260, 261, 262, 279.00, 279.01, 279.02, 279.03, 279.04, 279.05, 279.06, 279.09, 279.10, 279.11, 279.12, 279.13, 279.19, 279.2, 279.3, 279.4, 27941, 279.50, 279.51, 27952, 279.53, 279.8, 279.9, 284.09, 284.1, 284.11, 284.1, 284.19, 288.0, 288.00, 288.01, 288.02, 288.03, 288.09, 288.1, 288.2, 288.4, 288.50, 288.51, 288.59, 289.53, 289.83, 403.01, 403.11, 439.1, 404.02, 404.03, 404.12, 404.13, 404.92, 404.93, 579.3, 585, 585.5, 585.6, 996.8, 996.80, 996.81, 996.82, 996.83, 996.84, 996.85, 996.86, 996.87, 996.88, 996.89, V420, V421, V426, V427, V428, V4281, V428.2, V428.3, V4284, V4289, V451, V451.1, V560, V561, V562<br>Procedure codes<br>00.18, 33.5, 33.50, 33.51, 33.52, 33.6, 37.5, 37.51, 41.0, 41.00, 41.01, 41.02, 41.03, 41.04, 41.05, 41.06, 41.07, 41.08, 41.09, 4697, 50.51, 50.59, 52.80, 52.81, 52.82, 52.83, 52.85, 52.86, 55.69 |
| 12         | Urinary tract infection      | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for urinary tract infection<br>Excluded cases<br>With any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for kidney/urinary tract disorder. With any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes or any listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for immunocompromised state | 590.10, 590.11, 590.2, 590.3, 590.80, 590.81, 590.9, 595.0, 595.9, 599.0<br>Excluded cases<br>590.00, 590.01, 593.70, 593.71, 593.72, 593.73, 753.0, 753.10, 753.11, 753.12, 753.13, 753.14, 753.15, 753.16, 753.17, 753.19, 753.20, 753.21, 753.22, 753.23, 753.29, 753.3, 753.4, 753.5, 753.6, 753.8, 753.9   |
| 13         | Angina without procedure     | Discharges with principal diagnosis code for angina<br>Excluded cases<br>With any listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for cardiac procedure  | 411.81, 411.89, 413.0, 413.1, 413.9   |
| 14         | Uncontrolled diabetes        | Discharges with principal diagnosis code for uncontrolled diabetes without mention of short-term or long-term complication   | 250.02, 250.03  |

Supplementary Table 4. Continued

| PQI number | Preventive Quality Indicator               | Definition <sup>a</sup>   | ICD-9 codes   |
|------------|--|---|---|
| 15         | Asthma in younger adults                   | Discharges with principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for asthma<br>Excluded cases<br>With any listed ICD-9 diagnosis codes for cystic fibrosis and anomalies of the respiratory system   | 493.00, 493.01, 493.02, 493.10, 493.11, 493.12, 493.20, 493.21, 493.22, 493.81, 493.82 493.90, 493.91, 493.92   |
| 16         | Lower-extremity amputation among diabetics | Any listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for lower-extremity amputation and any listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for diabetes<br>Excluded cases<br>89.50, 89.51, 89.60, 89.61, 89.62, 89.63, 89.70, 89.71, 89.72, 89.73, 89.72, 89.73, 89.74, 89.75, 89.76, 89.77 | Procedure codes<br>84.10, 84.12, 84.13, 84.14, 84.15, 84.16, 84.17, 84.18, 84.19<br>Diagnosis codes<br>250.00, 250.01, 250.02, 250.03, 250.10, 250.11, 250.12, 250.13, 250.20, 250.21, 250.22, 250.23, 250.30, 250.31, 250.32, 250.33, 250.40, 250.41, 250.42, 250.43, 250.50, 250.51, 250.52, 250.53, 250.60, 250.61, 250.62, 250.63, 250.70, 250.71, 250.72, 250.73, 250.80, 250.81, 250.82, 250.83, 250.90, 250.91, 250.92, 250.93 |

COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; HB-S disease, hemoglobin SS disease; ICD-9-CM, International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision-Clinical Modification; PQI, Prevention Quality Indicator.

<sup>a</sup>ICD-9 codes for Prevention Quality Indicators, which are a set of measures that can be used with hospital inpatient discharge data to identify quality of care for ambulatory conditions for which good outpatient care can potentially prevent hospitalization, complications, or more severe disease. PQIs were developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

**Supplementary Table 5.** Diagnosis Codes Used in Grouping Causes of Admission in Patients With IBD

| Diagnoses/procedures                | DXCCS (CCS codes for diagnoses)  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cardiac                             | 96, 97, 100, 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108   |
| Cerebrovascular                     | 109, 110, 111, 112   |
| Respiratory                         | 122, 125, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134   |
| Infections                          | 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 76, 77, 123, 124, 126, 135, 159, 197, 201, 246   |
| Genitourinary                       | 156, 157, 158, 160, 161, 162, 163, 165, 166  |
| Gastrointestinal                    | 14, 15, 60, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 250, 251              |
| Endocrine/metabolic                 | 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55   |
| Neuropsychiatric                    | 83, 84, 85, 93, 95, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72   |
| Malignancies                        | 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 |
| Fractures                           | 226, 229, 230, 231   |
| Thromboembolism                     | 116, 118   |
| Inflammatory bowel disease specific | 144  |
| Others                              | 150, 199, 204, 209, 211, 252, 253, 254, 257, 233, 235, 239, 242, 244, 259  |

CCS, Clinical Classifications Software; IBD, inflammatory bowel disease.

**Supplementary Table 6.** Specific Diagnosis Codes for Readmissions

| Diagnoses/procedures                          | ICD-9 codes  |
|---|--|
| Serious infections                            |  |
| Meningitis                                    | 320.x, 321.x, 049.x  |
| Encephalitis                                  | 323.x, 054.x, 062.x  |
| Endocarditis                                  | 421.x  |
| Pneumonia                                     | 481.x, 482.x   |
| Pyelonephritis                                | 590.x  |
| Septic arthritis, Osteomyelitis               | 711.0x, 730.0x, 730.1x, 730.2x   |
| Septicemia or bacteremia                      | 038.x, 790.7   |
| Clostridium difficile                         | 008.45   |
| Opportunistic infections                      |  |
| Pulmonary tuberculosis                        | 011.x  |
| Atypical mycobacteria                         | 031.x  |
| Cryptococcosis, Aspergillosis, Histoplasmosis | 117.5, 117.3, 115.x  |
| Listeriosis                                   | 027.0  |
| Leishmaniasis                                 | 085.x  |
| Pneumocystis jiroveci pneumonia               | 136.3  |
| Cardiac                                       |  |
| Acute myocardial infarction                   | 410.xx (except 410.x2)   |
| Heart failure                                 | 402.01, 402.11, 402.91, 404.01, 404.03, 404.11, 404.13, 404.91, 404.93, 428.xx |
| Unstable angina                               | 411.xx   |
| Arrhythmia                                    | 427.xx (except 427.5)  |
| Cardiac arrest                                | 427.5  |

ICD-9, International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision.

**Supplementary Table 7.** Cox Proportional Hazard Analysis Evaluating Risk of IBD-Related Surgery Within 6 Months by Frailty Risk Score, Adjusting for Age, Sex, Obesity, Household Income, and Charlson Comorbidity Index Score

| Variable   | Hazard ratio (95% confidence interval) | P value |
|--|--|---------|
| Frailty risk score (moderate/high vs low)                                      | 0.80 (0.69–0.94)                       | .01     |
| Age (per 1-y increase)   | 0.98 (0.98–0.99)                       | <.01    |
| Charlson Comorbidity Index (reference group: 0)                                |  |         |
| • 1  | 0.67 (0.56–0.82)                       | <.01    |
| • 2 or more  | 0.50 (0.40–0.63)                       | <.01    |
| Gender (women vs men)  | 0.86 (0.76–0.97)                       | .02     |
| Median household income (reference group: 0 to 25th percentile (\$1–\$37,999)) |  |         |
| • 26th to 50th percentile (\$38,000–\$47,999)                                  | 1.25 (1.08–1.45)                       | <.01    |
| • 76th to 100th percentile (\$64,000 or more)                                  | 1.12 (0.96–1.30)                       | .15     |

NOTE. Inclusive of depression, obesity, and 51st to 75th percentile (\$48,000–\$63,999).

**Supplementary Table 8.** Stratified Analysis: Cox Proportional Hazard Analysis Evaluating Longitudinal Outcomes by Frailty Risk Score in Patients With vs Without Significant Comorbidities (CCI 1 or More vs CCI = 0), Patients With Severe vs Non-Severe Index Hospitalization, and Patients With Index Hospitalization due to IBD vs Not Related to IBD

| Frail vs non-frail (adjusted hazard ratio, with 95% CI) | Readmission      | Inpatient mortality | Readmission with severe hospitalization | IBD-related surgery |
|---|------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| Comorbidity index                                       |                  |                     |   |                     |
| CCI 0   | 1.37 (1.31–1.43) | 2.80 (1.89–4.15)    | 1.54 (1.43–1.67)                        | 0.85 (0.71–1.03)    |
| CCI 1 or more   | 1.15 (1.10–1.20) | 1.75 (1.49–2.06)    | 1.38 (1.28–1.48)                        | 0.68 (0.51–0.91)    |
| Severity of index hospitalization                       |                  |                     |   |                     |
| Severe  | 1.30 (1.22–1.39) | 1.85 (1.37–2.49)    | 1.23 (1.12–1.35)                        | N/A                 |
| Non-severe  | 1.11 (1.07–1.15) | 1.34 (1.11–1.62)    | 1.08 (1.01–1.15)                        | 0.67 (0.55–0.81)    |
| Reason for index hospitalization                        |                  |                     |   |                     |
| IBD-related   | 1.11 (1.04–1.17) | 1.58 (1.10–2.28)    | 1.08 (0.98–1.19)                        | 0.71 (0.56–0.90)    |
| Non-IBD-related   | 1.25 (1.21–1.31) | 1.54 (1.30–1.83)    | 1.27 (1.19–1.36)                        | 0.82 (0.66–1.03)    |

NOTE. All analyses were adjusted for age, sex, income, obesity, depression, Charlson Comorbidity Index score, and severity and reason for admission. CCI, Charlson Comorbidity Index; CI, confidence interval; IBD, inflammatory bowel disease.