SMART Questions:

APR/DRG

APR = All Patient Refined

DRG = Diagnosis Related Group

SMART Questions Based on APR Terms (with Related Columns)

1. APR DRG Code / Description:

Smart Question:

1…..How do APR DRG categories differ in terms of average length of stay and total charges for patients in Niagara hospitals?

Relevant Columns:

* apr\_drg\_description → diagnosis-related group name
* length\_of\_stay → number of days in hospital
* total\_charges → hospital billing charges
* total\_costs → hospital’s actual costs

2. APR MDC Code / Description

Smart Question:

* Which Major Diagnostic Categories (MDC) contribute most to hospitalizations and costs in Niagara hospitals?

Relevant Columns:

* apr\_mdc\_description → body system category (respiratory, circulatory, etc.)
* ccs\_diagnosis\_description → detailed diagnosis
* total\_charges → charges
* source\_of\_payment\_1 → insurance type (Medicare, Medicaid, etc.)

3. APR Severity of Illness

Smart Question:

* What is the relationship between severity of illness and length of stay across Niagara patients, and does severity significantly increase charges?

Relevant Columns:

* apr\_severity\_of\_illness\_description → minor, moderate, major, extreme
* length\_of\_stay → hospital days
* total\_charges → hospital charges
* patient\_disposition → outcome after discharge (home, transfer, deceased)

4. APR Risk of Mortality

Smart Question:

* How does risk of mortality vary by severity of illness and diagnosis in Niagara hospitals?

Relevant Columns:

* apr\_risk\_of\_mortality → mortality risk level
* apr\_severity\_of\_illness\_description → severity
* ccs\_diagnosis\_description → diagnosis
* patient\_disposition → discharge status (esp. deaths)

5. APR Medical/Surgical Description

Smart Question:

* Do medical cases differ from surgical cases in terms of length of stay and costs in Niagara hospitals?

Relevant Columns:

* apr\_medical\_surgical\_description → medical vs. surgical
* length\_of\_stay → days in hospital
* total\_charges → charges billed
* ccs\_procedure\_description → type of procedure performed