

**Table 5.12 C Chart and U Chart Applications in Health Care**

Area	Application	Statistic	Area of Opportunity	Chart
Overall	Accuracy in reporting	Total number of errors	Documents each of which has about the same number of pages	C chart
		Number of errors per 1,000 pages (total # errors divided by total # pages/1,000)	Documents but total number of pages in each document differs	U chart
ICU	Safety	Number of infections	Each month when the number of occupied bed days is relatively constant	C chart
		Number of infections per 1,000 occupied bed days	Each month when the number of occupied bed days varies from month to month	U chart
Surgery	Safety	Total number of complications	Number of surgeries for a constant subgroup size (e.g., sample of 50 surgeries for each subgroup)	C chart
		Number of complications per 100 surgeries	All surgeries this month (when the # surgeries varies each month)	U chart
Inpatient Care	Satisfaction	Number of complaints per month	Month when the # admissions is about the same each month	C chart
		Number of complaints per 100 admissions	Month but the number of admissions varies from month to month	U chart
Lab	Accuracy	Total number of bacteria in sample	Total centimeters tested per subgroup always the same (e.g., 2 cm each subgroup)	C chart
		Number of bacteria per centimeter of sample	Centimeters and the # centimeters tested is different per subgroup	U chart
Outpatient	Safety	Total number of employee accidents	Each month (when the number hours worked is about the same each month)	C chart
		Employee accidents per 100,000 hours worked	Hours worked each month (and the number hours worked varies each month)	U chart