

Empirical Outcome Data Collection Interrupted by COVID-19

We heard you:

COVID-19 has significantly impacted healthcare organizations in a variety of ways, such as: closed units, changed unit populations, staff changes, and/or suspending ongoing performance improvement projects. It is appreciated that organizations are continuing their commitment to nursing excellence and the Magnet Recognition Program despite the breaks in data collection for nurse-related initiatives that began prior to the pandemic.

To alleviate the stress on organizations concerned about their display of outcome data without compromising the high standards associated with the Magnet designation, an accommodation has been made for the display of Empirical Data, associated with units experiencing temporary closure or a change(s) in patient populations. Units that reopen and/or resume care for the previous patient population may continue with their original initiative. Pre-intervention data and dates for relevant examples would remain the same and the narrative and post-intervention data would continue when units return to pre-COVID-19 conditions (i.e. unit reopens and/or resumes the previous patient population)

In this case, data collection that was paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic would:

- 'Re-set' when the unit re-opens or resumes with the previous patient population
- Provide narrative to describe how the intervention provided prior to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the outcomes provided in the adjusted post-intervention timeframe initiative for all nurses (and others as applicable)
- Provide 3 data points in alignment with the EO Presentation Requirements described on pages 15 – 18 in the 2019 Magnet Application Manual

