

## **Abstract**

### **The Impact of Skilled Therapy Services on ICU Patients**

The following study is a retrospective study of patients admitted into the ICU of a regional medical center between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016. The study looked to examine the relationship between the timeframe in which skilled therapy services (physical therapy and/or occupational therapy) were initiated after admission into the ICU and the length of stay and rate of readmission the ICU patients encountered, specifically Cardiac, Pulmonary and Neurological patients. The findings showed a significant relationship between both the diagnosis and the time frame of skilled therapy services impacting the length of stay with the earlier skilled therapy services initiation decreasing the length of stay and accruing fewer readmissions. Moreover, there was a unique and significant relationship between the diagnosis and readmission rate. This data shows the significance of incorporating skilled therapy services into the care plan for critically ill patients and desires to encourage consistency among diagnoses and facilities.