**Measure ST1**: Screening for preferred language

**Domain of Quality**: Effectiveness

**Description**: The percent of patients who have been screened for their preferred spoken language

**Value of Measure**

Hospitals cannot provide adequate and appropriate language services to their patients if they do not create mechanisms to screen for limited English proficiency and identify patients’ preferred language for health care encounters. Standard practices of collecting preferred language would assist interpreter services in planning for demand, and also yield information on linguistic needs the hospital should consider (e.g., for signage or documents). This measure provides information on the degree to which patients are asked about the language they prefer to receive care in, and the extent to which this information is recorded. This measure also provides information on demand for interpreter services, and may assist with planning interpreter services resources.

**Measure Calculation** = 

\[
\frac{\text{Total number of patients with preferred language screened and recorded}}{\text{Total number of patients in the two selected clinical focus area(s)}}
\]

(Aadmissions and visits in the two selected clinical focus areas)

**Data Collection**: All admissions to the two selected clinical focus areas (hospital selected)

**Exclusions**: None

**Inclusions for Numerator**

- All patients receiving care in the two selected clinical focus areas with preferred language screened and recorded

**Inclusions for Denominator**

- All patients receiving care in the two selected clinical focus areas