

Key Performance Indicator: Subclinical Mastitis

Calculation of suggested key performance indicators for subclinical mastitis.

Indicator	Calculation	Suggested Goal
Prevalence	Number of cows with SCC >linear score 4 ^a divided by the number of cows with somatic cell counts	<15% of the herd
Incidence	Number of cows with SCC > linear score 4 ^a for the first time in the time period of interest ^b divided by the number of cows with SCC below the threshold in the previous time period	<5% if incidence is determined based on the first SCC above threshold in the lactation; up to 8% if calculated based on month to month changes in SCC ^b
Prevalence at 1 st DHIA Test	Number of cows with SCC >linear score 4 ^a at the 1 st DHIA test divided by the number of cows with first test DHIA somatic cell counts	<10% of 1 st lactation <5% of lactation 2+
Prevalence at last DHIA Test before dry off	Number of cows with SCC \geq linear score 4 ^a at the last DHIA test before dry off of the lactation divided by the number of cows with last test DHIA somatic cell counts	<25% of cows with last test days before dry off

^aFor the purpose of herd monitoring, linear somatic cell score of 4 is used interchangeably with somatic cell count of >200,000 cells/ml; ^bThe appropriate time period will vary depending the intended use of this index. Many DHIA centers & computer management programs will calculate this index based on changes between 2 months. Others may calculate it based on the SCC values available in the current lactation.