



# Texas Health Care Information Council

TDH-CHS • 1100 W. 49<sup>th</sup> Street • M-660 • Austin Texas 78756 • Phone 512-458-7261 • [www.thcic.state.tx.us](http://www.thcic.state.tx.us)

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## 2002 Indicators of Inpatient Care in Texas Hospitals

THCIC will release the 2002 Indicators of Inpatient Care report in May 2004. Hospitals will be given the opportunity to review and/or comment on the report prior to its release. THCIC will mail letters to the THCIC hospital primary contact on January 26<sup>th</sup> and will provide each hospital with information allowing access to a restricted website for viewing the data in the report. This site will be available for access beginning February 2, 2004 and ending April 1, 2004. Questions regarding access may be directed to Dee Shaw at 512-458-7261 ext 3374.

## Questions Answered

Some 20 individuals representing hospitals, vendors and trade associations attended a Questions and Answers session in Austin on January 13<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the session was for THCIC to respond to questions on the transition to the THCIC 837 claim format. While most questions were technical in nature, the group discussed over fifty questions that had been submitted to THCIC. A PowerPoint presentation of the questions and responses is available on the THCIC website <http://www.thcic.state.tx.us/> under PowerPoint Presentation.

## Hospital Data Collection Workgroup

In September 2003, all THCIC Technical Advisory Committees were abolished by HB2292, which was a concern for stakeholders as well as THCIC. In order to continue with hospital/stakeholder input, THCIC is creating the **Hospital Data Collection Workgroup** (HDCW). HDCW is a workgroup of stakeholders, health data experts and other people interested in hospital data collected and reports disseminated by the Hospital Discharge Data Program.

HDCW meetings will be posted on the THCIC and the Center for Health Statistics Websites and will be held in Austin. The group will be consulted on changes in hospital data collection and reporting.

Persons interested in participating on the HDCW should send an e-mail by **February 6<sup>th</sup>** to [dee.shaw@tdh.state.tx.us](mailto:dee.shaw@tdh.state.tx.us) with the following information: Name, organization w/address, position, e-mail address, phone number, and a very brief description on your health data background. The e-mail "subject" line should indicate "**Hospital Data Collection Workgroup Applicant**".

Please note that applicants selected to serve as a member of the HDCW will be required to attend meetings held in Austin, and teleconferencing will not be an option. Members will be responsible for their travel expenses and will not be entitled to reimbursement from THCIC. The first HDCW meeting is targeted for early March 2004.

If you have further questions regarding the HDCW, Please contact Sylvia Cook, Ph. (512) 458-7261 or E-mail – [Sylvia.Cook@tdh.state.tx.us](mailto:Sylvia.Cook@tdh.state.tx.us)

### **Hospital Data Discussion Group**

Sign up on the THCIC website ([www.thcic.state.tx.us](http://www.thcic.state.tx.us)) to be included in a discussion group on the hospital discharge data submitted by hospitals to THCIC. This group will receive updates on the progress of the transition to the 837 format and will share information on lessons learned.

### **Important Phone Numbers**

Texas Health Information Network (THIN)

THIN Helpdesk – 972-766-5480

Sherri Kelly – 972-766-8706

Ann Shelton – 972-766-6311

Commonwealth Clinical Systems (CCS)

THCIC Helpdesk – 888-308-4953 or [THCICHelp@comclin.net](mailto:THCICHelp@comclin.net)

TDH-Center for Health Statistics – 512-458-7261

THCIC Staff – 512-458-7111

Bruce Burns            extension 6431

Sylvia Cook            extension 6438

Dee Shaw                extension 3374

Ron Weiss                extension 6453

### **Reminders and Deadlines**

A new hospital discharge data schedule may be downloaded from <http://www.thcic.state.tx.us/hospitals/schedule/schedule.htm>.