



Texas Health Care Information Council

TDH-CHS • 1100 W. 49th Street • M-660 • Austin Texas 78756 • Phone 512-458-7261 • www.thcic.state.tx.us

December 11, 2003

Hospital Numbered Letter Volume 6 Number 12

THCIC is Moving

During the week of December 15th (Monday), THCIC staff will be moving to a new location within the Texas Department of Health (TDH) complex. Current phone numbers for staff will be operational through December 16th (Tuesday). Effective December 17th (Wednesday) staff may be contacted by dialing 512-458-7261, the main phone number at the TDH Center for Health Statistics (CHS). Please note that staff may be delayed from returning phone calls due to their involvement in the relocation efforts.

Effective December 16th (Tuesday, close of business), the current THCIC fax number (512-453-2757) will no longer be in service. Please monitor the THCIC web site at www.thcic.state.tx.us for updates on THCIC staff phone numbers and fax numbers.

The new address for all mail correspondence and package deliveries to THCIC is:

Texas Health Care Information Council
TDH-Center for Health Statistics
1100 W. 49th Street, M-660
Austin, TX 78756

The main phone number for CHS is: (512) 458-7261

THCIC staff e-mail addresses remain the same (**first.last@thcic.state.tx.us**).

Hospital Data Submitters Needed for 837 Pilot

The staff at THCIC is beginning to test the 837 data submission process and it may be beneficial for hospitals to participate in a pilot of the data submission process. Hospitals volunteering for the pilot must complete the 837 testing through THIN by early January 2004. Currently, there are no hospitals that meet this criteria.

THCIC is seeking hospitals to participate in a pilot of the submission, correction, and certification of data in the THCIC 837 format. Pilot hospitals will be asked to run a “mini” file through the complete submission – correction – certification process during the first months of 2004, with the goal of completing the pilot by the end of March. Hospitals wishing to participate should contact Dee Shaw by e-mail at dee.shaw@thcic.state.tx.us. Please provide the facility name, address, city, licensed bed size, a contact person, phone number, fax number, e-mail address, and how you generally submit your data (e.g., directly through your Information Systems department, using an in house system with a vendor, or through a submitting agent (vendor or clearinghouse or a parent hospital network)).

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

THCIC

Center for Health Statistics (CHS) – 512-458-7261

Data Sales

The calendar year 2002 Public Use Data File (PUDF) will be ready for shipment by the end of December. This completes the fourth complete calendar year for which hospital discharge data will be available. Purchase instructions can be found on the THCIC web site at

<http://www.thcic.state.tx.us/Publications.htm#PUDF>.

Be sure to ask about pricing discounts if ordering multiple years of the PUDF in the same order.

Reminders and Deadlines

The complete hospital discharge data schedule may be downloaded from

<http://www.thcic.state.tx.us/hospitals/schedule/schedule.htm>.

- 12/15/03 – Hospitals to receive 2q03 certification file
- 12/15/03 – 12/19/03 – THCIC staff moves to CHS