TEXAS Department of State Health Services

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

Hospital Numbered Letter Volume 8 Number12

September 27, 2005

Review of Mortality-Indicators of Inpatient Care in Texas Hospitals, 2003

A problem with the 2003 Indicators of Inpatient Care in Texas Hospitals was recently discovered in that patients transferred to rehabilitation hospitals and some long-term care facilities were excluded from the initial calculation released September 13. These patients account only for about 2.5% of the total inpatient discharges in 2003. The exclusion adversely affected only the mortality indicators. Revised calculations for the mortality indicators will be sent to hospitals for a 60-day required review and comment process. These indicators will be released at the conclusion of the review.

THCIC expects the review process to begin as early as the first of next week and will send out another numbered letter to the hospital primary contact announcing that date. Hospitals are to use the passwords and identifier issued for the initial review of the 2003 IQI. Questions about the password/identifier should be directed to Dee Roes by e-mail at dee.roes@dshs.state.tx.us.

Measures unaffected by the omission of these patients are Volume and Utilization. These measures are already available to the public.

2004 PUDF Available for Pre-purchase

The 2004 Public Use Data File (PUDF) is now available for pre-purchase. The order form is located at http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/THCIC/Hospitals/PUDFOrderForm.pdf. No date has been set for the release of the 1st quarter 2004 PUDF at this time; however, THCIC expects the release in the next few weeks.

Training Class

A training class on the full submission, correction, certification cycle was held in Austin on September 23rd. Due to Hurricane Rita, many of the attendees had to cancel. Another training session will be held for those that had to cancel. Date and location will be announced as soon as plans are finalized.

Important Phone Numbers
Commonwealth Clinical Systems (CCS)

THCIC Helpdesk – 888-308-4953 or THCICHelp@comclin.net

CCS web site – www.thcichelp.com (Please note that this is a new Web site for the THCIC help desk.)

HyperTerminal Phone Number – (434) 297-0367 (For Data Submission, Corrections and Uploading Certification Comments)

FTP address – ftp.comclin.com

DSHS-Center for Health Statistics – 512-458-7261
THCIC Staff – 512-458-7111

Bruce Burns	extension 6431	Hospital training, 837 format issues
Sylvia Cook	extension 6438	Hospital reports, data use
Dee Roes	extension 3374	Hospital compliance, data sales
Ron Weiss	extension 6453	

THCIC fax – 512-458-7740

Production Schedule

The hospital discharge data schedule may be downloaded from
http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/THCIC/hospitals/schedule.shtm.

- 11/1/05 – Cutoff for corrections for 2nd quarter 2005