

General Comments on 4th Quarter 2017 Data

The following general comments about the data for this quarter are made by THCIC and apply to all data released for this quarter.

- Data are administrative data, collected for billing purposes, not clinical data.
- Data are submitted in a standard government format, the 837 format used for submitting billing data to payers. State specifications require the submission of additional data elements. These data elements include race and ethnicity. Because these data elements are not sent to payers and may not be part of the hospital's standard data collection process, there may be an increase in the error rate for these elements. Data users should not conclude that billing data sent to payers is inaccurate.
- Hospitals are required to submit the patient's race and ethnicity following categories used by the U. S. Bureau of the Census. This information may be collected subjectively and may not be accurate.
- Hospitals are required to submit data within 60 days after the close of a calendar quarter (hospital data submission vendor deadlines may be sooner). Depending on hospitals' collection and billing cycles, not all discharges may have been billed or reported. Therefore, data for each quarter may not be complete. This can affect the accuracy of source of payment data, particularly self-pay and charity categories, where patients may later qualify for Medicaid or other payment sources.
- The Source of Admission data element is suppressed if the Type of Admission field indicates the patient is newborn. The condition of the newborn can be determined from the diagnosis codes. Source of admission for newborns is suppressed indefinitely.
- Conclusions drawn from the data are subject to errors caused by the inability of the hospital to communicate complete data due to reporting form constraints, subjectivity in the assignment of codes, system mapping, and normal clerical error. The data are submitted by hospitals as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

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PROVIDER: Baptist St Anthonys Hospital
THCIC ID: 001000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

I certify tthis data is correct to the best of my knowledge on this date of certification 05/30/2018.

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PROVIDER: Matagorda Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 006000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data included in this file is administrative, not clinical research data. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of a patient visit. This data should be cautiously used to evaluate health care quality and compare outcomes.

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PROVIDER: Matagorda Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 006001
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data included in this file is administrative, not clinical research data. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of a patient visit. This data should be cautiously used to evaluate health care quality and compare outcomes.

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PROVIDER: CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center-Marshall
THCIC ID: 020000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Elected Not to Certify

This data is submitted in an effort to meet statutory requirements. Conclusions drawn could be erroneous due to communication difficulties in reporting complete data caused by reporting constraints, subjectivity in assignment of codes, various system mapping and normal clerical error. Data submission deadlines prevent inclusion of all applicable cases therefore this represents administrative claims data at the time of preset deadlines. Diagnostic and procedural data may be incomplete due to data field limitations. Data should be cautiously used to evaluate health care quality and compare outcomes.

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PROVIDER: CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center-Longview
THCIC ID: 029000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

This data is submitted in an effort to meet statutory requirements. Conclusions drawn could be erroneous due to communication difficulties in reporting complete data caused by reporting constraints, subjectivity in assignment of codes, various system mapping and normal clerical error. Data submission deadlines prevent inclusion of all applicable cases therefore this represents administrative claims data at the time of preset deadlines. Diagnostic and procedural data may be incomplete due to data field limitations. Data should be cautiously used to evaluate health care quality and compare outcomes.

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PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Carrollton
THCIC ID: 042000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Carrollton
THCIC ID: 042000
QUARTER: 4th
YEAR: 2017

Certified with comments

Submission Timing

Baylor estimates that our data volumes for the calendar year time period submitted may include 96% to 100% of all cases for that time period. The state requires us to submit a snapshot of billed claims, extracted from our database approximately 20 days following the close of the calendar year quarter. Any discharged patient encounters not billed by this cut-off date will not be included in the quarterly submission file sent in.

Physician Identification

All physician license numbers and names have been validated as accurate against a physician reference file that is derived from information provided by the Texas Board of Medical Examiners. Those physicians not yet assigned a state license number at the time of data submission are given temporary

numbers by the hospital for state reporting purposes. Due to the "lag" time between when the physician is licensed and when THCIC receives the information, some physicians may remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

The THCIC minimum data set houses only two (2) physician fields; Attending Physician and Operating or Other Physician (if applicable) as reflected on the UB04 billing document. Mortality rates, case costs and other data calculated for this population of physicians may be misrepresentative. Due to the complexity of most inpatient admissions many physicians provide care to patients throughout an admission. Consulting physicians may prescribe and treat patients on behalf of the physician listed as the attending physician. Analysis of this physician information should carefully consider that significant variations in case count, case cost, and mortality may not be directly related to the care provided by the attending physician, but also reflect the varied use of consultants.

While hospitals document many treating physicians (surgeons and consultants) for each case, THCIC maintains only one (1) additional physician per case besides the Attending. "Other" physician case volumes, mortality, case costs and LOS, will frequently be inaccurate because of this limitation. Surgeons and consulting physicians beyond one that may have been involved on a case will not be credited with providing care for that patient. Analysis of "other physician" information should, therefore, take into consideration that a significant portion of treating physicians are excluded from the patient cases.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government and all hospitals must comply.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code as many as 25 diagnoses and 25 procedures for each patient record. One limitation of using the ICD-10-CM system is that there does not exist a code for every possible diagnosis and procedure due to the continued evolution of medicine; new codes are added yearly as coding manuals are updated.

Normal Newborns

The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. The actual experience of a newborn is captured elsewhere in the file, namely, in the ICD-10-CM diagnosis. Admission source does not give an accurate picture.

Mortalities

Due to insurance payer requirements, organ donor patients are readmitted and expired in the system to address the issues of separate payers. This results in double counting some "expired" cases which will increase the mortality figure reported and not accurately reflect the actual number of mortalities.

Race/Ethnicity

There are no national standards regarding patient race categorization so hospitals may not have the same designations from which patients can choose. The state has recently attempted to standardize a valid set of race codes for this project but these are not universally used by all hospitals. Each hospital must independently map their specific codes to the state's race code categories. This mapping may not be consistent across hospitals. Thus epidemiology analysis of these two data fields does not accurately describe the true population served by the hospital. "Asian or Pacific Islander" encounters are not broken out separately but are included in the "Other" race category.

Standard Source of Payment

The standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB04 billing record. In order to meet this requirement each payer identification must be categorized into the appropriate standard source of payment value. It should also be noted that the primary payer associated to the patient's encounter record might change over time.

Additionally, those payers identified contractually as both "HMO, and PPO" are categorized as "Commercial PPO". Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Certification Process

Given the current certification software, there is not an efficient mechanism to edit and correct the data. In addition, due to hospital volumes, it is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits. Within the constraints of the current THCIC process, the data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Huguley Hospital

THCIC ID: 047000

QUARTER: 4

YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The following comments reflect concerns, errors, or limitations of discharge data for THCIC mandatory reporting requirements as of September 1, 2018. If any errors are discovered in our data after this point, we will be unable to communicate these due to THCIC. This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes, and not clinical data, from which you can make judgments about patient care.

Submission Timing

To meet the States submission deadline, approximately 30 days following the close of the calendar year quarter, we submit a snapshot of billed claims, extracted from our database. Any discharged patient encounters not billed by this cut-off date will not be included in the quarterly submission file sent in.

Diagnosis and Procedures

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a ICD-10-CM effective 10-1-2015. This is mandated by the federal government and all hospitals must comply.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code as many as 25 diagnoses and 25 procedures for each patient record. One limitation of using the ICD-10-CM is that there does not exist a code for every possible diagnosis and procedure due to the continued evolution of medicine; new codes are added yearly as coding manuals are updated.

There is no mechanism provided in the reporting process to factor in DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) patients. Any mortalities occurring to a DNR patient are not recognized separately; therefore, mortality ratios may be accurate for reporting standards but overstated.

Physician

While the hospital documents many treating physicians for each case, the THCIC minimum data set has only (2) physician fields, Attending and Operating Physicians. Many physicians provide care to patients throughout a hospital stay. Consulting physicians may prescribe and treat patients on behalf of the physician listed as the Attending. "Other" physician case volumes, mortality, case costs and LOS, will frequently be inaccurate because of this limitation.

Analysis of "Other physician" information should, therefore, take into consideration that a significant portion of treating physicians are excluded from the patient cases.

Given the current certification software, there is not an efficient mechanism to edit and correct the data. In addition, due to hospital volumes, it is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits. All known errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. Within the constraints of the current THCIC process, the data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments.

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PROVIDER: Brownwood Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 058000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Known naming convention issue with some practitioner NPIs.

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PROVIDER: Hardeman County Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 102000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Missing SSN errors were not presented at the time of visit by the parent/patient and have been unable to obtain.

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PROVIDER: Encompass Health Rehab Hospital Cypress
THCIC ID: 112100
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Accept as is with errors

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PROVIDER: CHI St Lukes Health Baylor College of Medicine Medical Center
THCIC ID: 118000

QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 4, 2017 do not accurately reflect patient volume or severity.

Patient Volume

Data reflects administrative claims data (Uniform Billing data elements) that are a snapshot of claims one month following quarter-end. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

More importantly, not all clinically significant conditions can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-10-CM diagnosis coding system such as ejection fraction. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

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PROVIDER: Houston Methodist Hospital
THCIC ID: 124000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to EMR change, and challenges faced while extracting the appropriate cases, you may notice some of the quarterly volume as out of norm, but they do add up when examined on an on-going base. We are right now addressing this issue with our IT to fix this moving forward.

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PROVIDER: University Medical Center
THCIC ID: 145000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

This data represents accurate information at the time of submission. Subsequent changes may continue to occur that will not be reflected in this published dataset.

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PROVIDER: Methodist Texsan Hospital
THCIC ID: 154003
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

N/A

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist HEB
THCIC ID: 182000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain

an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates. The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source.

Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health HEB recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

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As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital-Fort Worth
THCIC ID: 235000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data

places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is

4q2017_Certification_Comments.txt

only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source.

Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Fort Worth recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue

and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

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PROVIDER: East Texas Medical Center-Henderson
 THCIC ID: 248000
 QUARTER: 4
 YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to a change in personnel, fourth quarter errors were not identified for correction. Processes have been put in place to verify correction of errors in 2018.

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PROVIDER: Wise Health System
 THCIC ID: 254000
 QUARTER: 4
 YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data for 4Q2017 is being certified with comment. All reported data is accurate and correct at the specific point in time that the data files are generated. Information is subject to change after files are generated and submitted to THICIC; any changes would be information collected or updated during the normal course of business.

Any claims errors generated for missing information for the Operating Physician or Invalid Value Codes are caused by system issue which did not affect the quality or accuracy of the claim data as it has been accepted and processed by the payer for reimbursement when appropriate.

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PROVIDER: Wise Health System
 THCIC ID: 254001
 QUARTER: 4
 YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data for 4Q2017 is being certified with comment. All reported data is accurate and correct at the specific point in time that the data files are generated. Information is subject to change after files are generated and submitted to THICIC; any changes would be information collected or updated

during the normal course of business.

Any claims errors generated for missing information for the Operating Physician or Invalid Value Codes are caused by system issue which did not affect the quality or accuracy of the claim data as it has been accepted and processed by the payer for reimbursement when appropriate.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital-Stephenville
THCIC ID: 256000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

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The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or

developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source.

Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Stephenville recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many

patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

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Discharge Disposition

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PROVIDER: University Medical Center of El Paso
THCIC ID: 263000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

In this database only one primary physician is allowed. This represents the physician at discharge in this institution. At an academic medical center such as University Medical Center of El Paso, patients are cared for by teams of physicians who rotate at varying intervals. Therefore, many patients, particularly long term patients may actually be managed by several different teams. The practice of attributing patient outcomes in the database to a single physician may result in inaccurate information.

Through performance improvement process, we review the data and strive to make changes to result in improvement.

PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Kaufman

THCIC ID: 303000

QUARTER: 4

YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH303000

QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient

Texas Health Kaufman CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all

procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source.

Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Kaufman recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

4q2017_Certification_Comments.txt

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====
PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Cleburne
THCIC ID: 323000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH323000
QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient
Texas Health Cleburne CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates. The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of

illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source. Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture. If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Cleburne recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

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PROVIDER: Cook Childrens Medical Center
THCIC ID: 332000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Cook Children's Medical Center has submitted and certified 4th QUARTER 2017 inpatient, outpatient surgery and outpatient radiology encounters to the Texas Health Care Information Council with the following possible data concerns based on the required submission method.

Since our data was submitted to the State we have uncovered medical coding errors regarding the following patient conditions in 2005 and 2010 discharges:

- Post-operative infections
- Accidental puncture and lacerations
- Post-operative wound dehiscence
- Post-operative hemorrhage and hematoma

Comparative complication reports reflecting the above conditions could misstate the true conditions at Cook Children's Medical Center for the 4th QUARTER OF 2017.

Patient charges that were accrued before admit or after discharge were systematically excluded from the database. This can happen when a patient is pre-admitted and incurs charges to their encounter before their admit date or charges are discovered and added to the patient encounter after they are discharged. Therefore, the charges for many patient encounters are under reported.

The data structure allowed by THCIC erroneously assigns surgeons to surgical procedures they did not perform. The data structure provided by THCIC allows for one attending and one operating physician assignment. However, patients frequently undergo multiple surgeries where different physicians perform multiple procedures. Assigning all of those procedures to a single 'operating physician' will frequently attribute surgeries to the wrong physician. THCIC chooses to only assign one surgeon to a patient encounter, not to each procedure.

Furthermore, the data structure established by THCIC allows for a limited number of diagnoses and procedures. Patients with more than the limit for diagnoses or procedures will be missing information from the database. This is especially true in complex cases where a patient has multiple major illnesses and multiple surgeries over an extended stay.

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PROVIDER: Medical City Denton
THCIC ID: 336001
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

PROCEDURE DATE IS CORRECT

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PROVIDER: Medical Arts Hospital
THCIC ID: 341000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to the sheer volume of the data and with limited resources within the hospital, I cannot properly analyze the data with 100% accuracy. But at this time we will elect to certify the data.

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PROVIDER: Reagan Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 343000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Site certifying and working on system for any related issues

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PROVIDER: Coryell Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 346000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Coryell Memorial Hospital actually discharged 234 inpatients during the 4th quarter of 2017. We are working with THCIC to understand why 49 claims were not included in this data.

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PROVIDER: Starr County Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 393000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

This is to certify Starr County Memorial Hospital's patients data for the 4th quarter 2017.

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PROVIDER: Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital
THCIC ID: 405000
  QUARTER: 4
    YEAR: 2017

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Certified With Comments

Due to EMR change, and challenges faced while extracting the appropriate cases, you may notice some of the quarterly volume as out of norm, but they do add up when examined on an on-going base.
 We are right now addressing this issue with our IT to fix this moving forward.

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PROVIDER: John Peter Smith Hospital
THCIC ID: 409000
  QUARTER: 4
    YEAR: 2017

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Certified With Comments

John Peter Smith Hospital (JPSH) is operated by JPS Health Network under the auspices of the Tarrant County Hospital District. The JPS Health Network is accredited by the Joint Commission. In addition, JPSH holds Joint Commission accreditation as a hospital.

JPSH is the only Texas Department of Health certified Level I Trauma Center in Tarrant County and includes the only psychiatric emergency center in the county. The hospital's services include intensive care for adults and newborns, an AIDS treatment center, a full range of obstetrical and gynecological services, adult inpatient care and an inpatient mental health treatment facility.

JPSH is a major teaching hospital offering, or providing through co-operative arrangements, postdoctoral training in orthopedics, obstetrics and gynecology, psychiatry, surgery, oral and maxillofacial surgery, radiology, sports medicine, podiatry and pharmacy. The family medicine residency is the largest hospital-based family medicine residency program in the nation.

In addition to JPSH, the JPS Health Network operates community health

centers located in medically underserved areas of Tarrant County; school-based health clinics; outpatient programs for pregnant women, behavioral health and cancer patients; and a wide range of wellness education programs.

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PROVIDER: East Texas Medical Center-Quitman
THCIC ID: 411000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

All data is correct to the best of my knowledge.

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PROVIDER: East Texas Medical Center-Jacksonville
THCIC ID: 416000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Unable to determine cause of errors report. Errors were corrected through our vendor. New processes have been put in place to verify correction of errors.

=====
PROVIDER: Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 422000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH422000
QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient
Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS
Data Content

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The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual

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The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates. The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

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Length of Stay

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greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source.

Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

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Discharge Disposition

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PROVIDER: Stephens Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 430000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

2017 4th Quarter Inpatient-Athena.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas
THCIC ID: 431000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH431000
QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient
Texas Health Dallas CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Data Content

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9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

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Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

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Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Dallas recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This

methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

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Cost/ Revenue Codes

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Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====
PROVIDER: East Texas Medical Center-Pittsburg
THCIC ID: 438000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

All data is correct to the best of my knowledge.

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PROVIDER: Dallas Medical Center

THCIC ID: 449000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

certified 8/31

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PROVIDER: DeTar Hospital-Navarro
THCIC ID: 453000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The DeTar Healthcare System includes two full-service acute care hospitals: DeTar Hospital Navarro located at 506 E. San Antonio Street and DeTar Hospital North located at 101 Medical Drive. Both acute care hospitals are located in Victoria, Texas. DeTar Healthcare System is both Joint Commission accredited and Medicare certified. The system also includes two Emergency Departments with Level III Trauma Designation at DeTar Hospital Navarro and Level IV Trauma Designation at DeTar Hospital North; a DeTar Health Center; a comprehensive Cardiac Program including Cardiothoracic Surgery and Interventional Cardiology as well as Electrophysiology; Interventional Radiology Services; Accredited Chest Pain Center; a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence, Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation Centers; DeTar Senior Care Center; Senior Circle; Primary Stroke Center and a free Physician Referral Call Center. To learn more, please visit our website at www.detar.com.

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PROVIDER: DeTar Hospital-North
THCIC ID: 453001
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The DeTar Healthcare System includes two full-service acute care hospitals: DeTar Hospital Navarro located at 506 E. San Antonio Street and DeTar Hospital North located at 101 Medical Drive. Both acute care hospitals are located in Victoria, Texas. DeTar Healthcare System is both Joint Commission accredited and Medicare certified. The system also includes two Emergency Departments with Level III Trauma Designation at DeTar Hospital Navarro and Level IV Trauma Designation at DeTar Hospital North; a DeTar Health Center; a comprehensive Cardiac Program including Cardiothoracic Surgery and Interventional Cardiology

as well as Electrophysiology; Interventional Radiology Services; Accredited Chest Pain Center; a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence, Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation Centers; DeTar Senior Care Center; Senior Circle; Primary Stroke Center and a free Physician Referral Call Center. To learn more, please visit our website at www.detar.com.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Azle
THCIC ID: 469000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH469000
QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient
Texas Health Azle CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS
Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization.

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For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates. The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source. Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Azle recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely

collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

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PROVIDER: Parkland Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 474000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Parkland has delayed billing systems which do not allow for timely updates, we have internally worked to resolve these issues to accommodate deadlines set forth. Data beginning 2nd Quarter 2018 is now completely corrected and will always going forward be at 100% accuracy in System 13.

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PROVIDER: East Texas Medical Center-Carthage
THCIC ID: 484000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

No error on report

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PROVIDER: Driscoll Childrens Hospital
THCIC ID: 488000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

All provider identifying information has been verified and will be updated against a reference file and continues to be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

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PROVIDER: Seton Medical Center
THCIC ID: 497000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Seton Medical Center Austin has a transplant program and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Hospitals with transplant programs generally serve a more seriously ill patient, increasing costs and mortality rates. The NICU serves very seriously ill infants substantially increasing cost, lengths of stay and mortality rates. As a regional referral center and tertiary care hospital for cardiac and critical care services, Seton Medical Center Austin receives numerous transfers from hospitals not able to serve a more complex mix of patients. This increased patient complexity may lead to longer lengths of stay, higher costs and increased mortality.

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

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PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center-Grapevine
THCIC ID: 513000
QUARTER: 4

YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Grapevine

THCIC ID: 513000

QUARTER: 4th

YEAR: 2017

Certified with comments

Submission Timing

Baylor estimates that our data volumes for the calendar year time period submitted may include 96% to 100% of all cases for that time period. The state requires us to submit a snapshot of billed claims, extracted from our database approximately 20 days following the close of the calendar year quarter. Any discharged patient encounters not billed by this cut-off date will not be included in the quarterly submission file sent in.

Physician Identification

All physician license numbers and names have been validated as accurate against a physician reference file that is derived from information provided by the Texas Board of Medical Examiners. Those physicians not yet assigned a state license number at the time of data submission are given temporary numbers by the hospital for state reporting purposes. Due to the "lag" time between when the physician is licensed and when THCIC receives the information, some physicians may remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

The THCIC minimum data set houses only two (2) physician fields; Attending Physician and Operating or Other Physician (if applicable) as reflected on the UB04 billing document. Mortality rates, case costs and other data calculated for this population of physicians may be misrepresentative. Due to the complexity of most inpatient admissions many physicians provide care to patients throughout an admission. Consulting physicians may prescribe and treat patients on behalf of the physician listed as the attending physician. Analysis of this physician information should carefully consider that significant variations in case count, case cost, and mortality may not be directly related to the care provided by the attending physician, but also reflect the varied use of consultants.

While hospitals document many treating physicians (surgeons and consultants) for each case, THCIC maintains only one (1) additional physician per case besides the Attending. "Other" physician case volumes, mortality, case costs and LOS, will frequently be inaccurate because of this limitation. Surgeons and consulting physicians beyond one that may have been involved on a case will not be credited with providing care for that patient. Analysis of "other physician" information should, therefore, take into

consideration that a significant portion of treating physicians are excluded from the patient cases.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government and all hospitals must comply.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code as many as 25 diagnoses and 25 procedures for each patient record. One limitation of using the ICD-10-CM system is that there does not exist a code for every possible diagnosis and procedure due to the continued evolution of medicine; new codes are added yearly as coding manuals are updated.

Normal Newborns

The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. The actual experience of a newborn is captured elsewhere in the file, namely, in the ICD-10-CM diagnosis. Admission source does not give an accurate picture.

Mortalities

Due to insurance payer requirements, organ donor patients are readmitted and expired in the system to address the issues of separate payers. This results in double counting some "expired" cases which will increase the mortality figure reported and not accurately reflect the actual number of mortalities.

Race/Ethnicity

There are no national standards regarding patient race categorization so hospitals may not have the same designations from which patients can choose. The state has recently attempted to standardize a valid set of race codes for this project but these are not universally used by all hospitals. Each hospital must independently map their specific codes to the state's race code categories. This mapping may not be consistent across hospitals. Thus epidemiology analysis of these two data fields does not accurately describe the true population served by the hospital. "Asian or Pacific Islander" encounters are not broken out separately but are included in the "Other" race category.

Standard Source of Payment

The standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB04 billing record. In order to meet this requirement each payer identification must be categorized into the appropriate standard source of payment value. It should also be noted that the primary payer associated to the patient's encounter record might change over

time.

Additionally, those payers identified contractually as both "HMO, and PPO" are categorized as "Commercial PPO". Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Certification Process

Given the current certification software, there is not an efficient mechanism to edit and correct the data. In addition, due to hospital volumes, it is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits. Within the constraints of the current THCIC process, the data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments.

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PROVIDER: Seton Highland Lakes Hospital
THCIC ID: 559000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Seton Highland Lakes, a member of the Seton Family of Hospitals, is a 25-bed acute care facility located between Burnet and Marble Falls on Highway 281. The hospital offers 24-hour emergency services, plus comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services for residents in the surrounding area. Seton Highland Lakes also offers home health and hospice services. For primary and preventive care, Seton Highland Lakes offers a clinic in Burnet, a clinic in Marble Falls, a clinic in Bertram, a clinic in Lampasas, and a pediatric mobile clinic in the county. This facility is designated by the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services as a Critical Access

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PROVIDER: Seton Edgar B Davis Hospital
THCIC ID: 597000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Seton Edgar B. Davis, a member of the Seton Family of Hospitals, is a general acute care, 25-bed facility committed to providing quality inpatient and outpatient services for residents of Caldwell and surrounding counties. Seton Edgar B. Davis offers health education and wellness programs. In addition, specialists offer a number of outpatient specialty clinics providing area residents local access to the services of medical specialists. Seton Edgar B. Davis is located at 130 Hays St. in Luling, Texas. This facility is designated by the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services as a Critical Access Hospital and is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations under its Critical Access program.

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

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PROVIDER: Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center
THCIC ID: 606000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

approved.

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PROVIDER: Encompass Health Rehab Hospital Humble
THCIC ID: 616000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

No Comments

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital-Southwest Fort Worth
THCIC ID: 627000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH627000
QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient
Texas Health Southwest CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99

diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source. Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Southwest recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment

value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

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PROVIDER: Hamilton General Hospital
THCIC ID: 640000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

All data available at time of submission reported.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Specialty Hospital-Fort Worth
THCIC ID: 652000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

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If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

Texas Health Specialty Hospital does not have a newborn patient population.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

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Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

Admissions

Revisions will be made to correct the admission type.

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PROVIDER: HEALTHSOUTH Rehab Hospital

THCIC ID: 659000

QUARTER: 4

YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

4th Quarter 2017

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PROVIDER: Encompass Health Rehab Hospital City View
THCIC ID: 662000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

4th Quarter 2017

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Plano
THCIC ID: 664000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

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4q2017_Certification_Comments.txt

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

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Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source. Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Plano recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be

creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

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Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

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PROVIDER: Encompass Health Rehab Hospital Plano
THCIC ID: 670000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Information Certified

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PROVIDER: CHRISTUS St Michael Rehab Hospital
THCIC ID: 713001
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Looks accurate to me.

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PROVIDER: Ennis Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 714500
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to technical issues, some data fields may contain errors.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Seay Behavioral Health Hospital
THCIC ID: 720000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below

9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source. Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Seay Behavioral Center recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates.

This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Allen
THCIC ID: 724200
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from

a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker

patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source.

Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Allen recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Health Heart & Vascular Hospital
THCIC ID: 730001
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge.

If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always

possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment

value.

These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service.

Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====

PROVIDER: St Lukes Hospital at the Vintage
THCIC ID: 740000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 4, 2017 do not accurately reflect patient volume or severity.

Patient Volume

Data reflects administrative claims data (Uniform Billing data elements) that are a snapshot of claims one month following quarter-end. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

More importantly, not all clinically significant conditions can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-10-CM diagnosis coding system such as ejection fraction. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Health Springwood Behavioral Health Hospital
THCIC ID: 778000

QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us

4q2017_Certification_Comments.txt

to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

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Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source.

Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Springwood recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information,

because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====
PROVIDER: South Texas Spine & Surgical Hospital
THCIC ID: 786800
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Certify without comments

=====
PROVIDER: CHRISTUS St Michael Health System
THCIC ID: 788001
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

To the best of my knowledge, I certify that the attached information is accurate.

=====
PROVIDER: Harlingen Medical Center
THCIC ID: 788002
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

For unknown reason, Information on few accounts even though correct, showing as

errors and we were not been able correct these errors on THCIC

=====

PROVIDER: Christus St Michael Hospital Atlanta
THCIC ID: 788003
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

To the best of my knowledge, I certify that the attached information is accurate.

=====

PROVIDER: St Lukes The Woodlands Hospital
THCIC ID: 793100
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 4, 2017 do not accurately reflect patient volume or severity.

Patient Volume

Data reflects administrative claims data (Uniform Billing data elements) that are a snapshot of claims one month following quarter-end. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

More importantly, not all clinically significant conditions can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-10-CM diagnosis coding system such as ejection fraction. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

=====

PROVIDER: Seton Southwest Hospital
THCIC ID: 797500
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

4q2017_Certification_Comments.txt

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

=====

PROVIDER: Seton Northwest Hospital
THCIC ID: 797600
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

=====

PROVIDER: Baylor Surgical Hospital at Las Colinas
THCIC ID: 799500
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

This 4q2017 data is not accurate because it contacts claims from 3q2017 in addition to 4q2017 data. This was caused by a submission error.

=====

PROVIDER: Foundation Surgical Hospital of El Paso
THCIC ID: 801300
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

I am certifying these claims to the best of my ability based on the reporting capabilities and information provided by our practice software system. (HEALTHLAND)

=====

PROVIDER: Lubbock Heart Hospital
THCIC ID: 801500
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

physician discrepancy with NPI. We show it is correct

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Southlake
THCIC ID: 812800
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Files may contain duplicates and/or missing claims all data is accurate

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Institute for Surgery-Texas Health Presbyterian-Dallas
THCIC ID: 813100
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Files may contain duplicates and/or missing claims all data is accurate

=====

PROVIDER: Medical City Las Colinas
THCIC ID: 814000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

PATIENT BIRTHDAY IS CORRECT

=====

PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center-Plano

THCIC ID: 814001
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Plano
THCIC ID: 814001
QUARTER: 4th
YEAR: 2017

Certified with comments

Submission Timing

Baylor estimates that our data volumes for the calendar year time period submitted may include 96% to 100% of all cases for that time period. The state requires us to submit a snapshot of billed claims, extracted from our database approximately 20 days following the close of the calendar year quarter. Any discharged patient encounters not billed by this cut-off date will not be included in the quarterly submission file sent in.

Physician Identification

All physician license numbers and names have been validated as accurate against a physician reference file that is derived from information provided by the Texas Board of Medical Examiners. Those physicians not yet assigned a state license number at the time of data submission are given temporary numbers by the hospital for state reporting purposes. Due to the "lag" time between when the physician is licensed and when THCIC receives the information, some physicians may remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

The THCIC minimum data set houses only two (2) physician fields; Attending Physician and Operating or Other Physician (if applicable) as reflected on the UB04 billing document. Mortality rates, case costs and other data calculated for this population of physicians may be misrepresentative. Due to the complexity of most inpatient admissions many physicians provide care to patients throughout an admission. Consulting physicians may prescribe and treat patients on behalf of the physician listed as the attending physician. Analysis of this physician information should carefully consider that significant variations in case count, case cost, and mortality may not be directly related to the care provided by the attending physician, but also reflect the varied use of consultants.

While hospitals document many treating physicians (surgeons and consultants) for each case, THCIC maintains only one (1) additional physician per case besides the Attending. "Other" physician case volumes, mortality, case costs and LOS, will frequently be inaccurate because of this limitation. Surgeons and consulting physicians beyond one that may have been involved

on a case will not be credited with providing care for that patient. Analysis of "other physician" information should, therefore, take into consideration that a significant portion of treating physicians are excluded from the patient cases.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government and all hospitals must comply.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code as many as 25 diagnoses and 25 procedures for each patient record. One limitation of using the ICD-10-CM system is that there does not exist a code for every possible diagnosis and procedure due to the continued evolution of medicine; new codes are added yearly as coding manuals are updated.

Normal Newborns

The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. The actual experience of a newborn is captured elsewhere in the file, namely, in the ICD-10-CM diagnosis. Admission source does not give an accurate picture.

Mortalities

Due to insurance payer requirements, organ donor patients are readmitted and expired in the system to address the issues of separate payers. This results in double counting some "expired" cases which will increase the mortality figure reported and not accurately reflect the actual number of mortalities.

Race/Ethnicity

There are no national standards regarding patient race categorization so hospitals may not have the same designations from which patients can choose. The state has recently attempted to standardize a valid set of race codes for this project but these are not universally used by all hospitals. Each hospital must independently map their specific codes to the state's race code categories. This mapping may not be consistent across hospitals. Thus epidemiology analysis of these two data fields does not accurately describe the true population served by the hospital. "Asian or Pacific Islander" encounters are not broken out separately but are included in the "Other" race category.

Standard Source of Payment

The standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB04 billing record. In order to meet this requirement each payer identification must be categorized into the

appropriate standard source of payment value. It should also be noted that the primary payer associated to the patient's encounter record might change over time.

Additionally, those payers identified contractually as both "HMO, and PPO" are categorized as "Commercial PPO". Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Certification Process

Given the current certification software, there is not an efficient mechanism to edit and correct the data. In addition, due to hospital volumes, it is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits. Within the constraints of the current THCIC process, the data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Center-Diagnostics & Surgery Plano
THCIC ID: 815300
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Files may contain duplicates and/or missing claims all data is accurate

=====
PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Denton
THCIC ID: 820800
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH820800
QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient
Texas Health Denton CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS
Data Content

This data is administrative data, which hospitals collect for billing purposes. Administrative data may not accurately represent the clinical details of an encounter.

The state requires us to submit inpatient claims, by quarter year, gathered from a form called an UB92, in a standard government format called HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format. Then the state specifications require additional data elements to be included over and above that. Adding those additional data places programming burdens on the hospital since it is over and above the actual hospital billing process. Errors can occur due to this additional programming, but the public should not conclude that billing data sent to our payers is inaccurate. These errors have been corrected to the best of our knowledge. If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality

percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source. Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Denton recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received

by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====
PROVIDER: Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital
THCIC ID: 823000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to EMR change, and challenges faced while extracting the appropriate cases, you may notice some of the quarterly volume as out of norm, but they do add up when examined on an on-going base. We are right now addressing this issue with our IT to fix this moving forward.

=====
PROVIDER: Vibra Specialty Hospital
THCIC ID: 839100
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

2017 4th quarter had errors that were overlooked as an oversight.

=====
PROVIDER: Dell Childrens Medical Center
THCIC ID: 852000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas (DCMCCT) is the only children's hospital in the Central Texas Region. DCMCCT serves severely ill and/or injured children requiring intensive resources which increase the hospital's costs of care, lengths of stay and mortality rates. In addition, the hospital includes a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) which serves very

seriously ill infants, which substantially increases costs of care, lengths of stay and mortality rates.

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

=====

PROVIDER: Physicians Surgical Hospital-Quail Creek
THCIC ID: 852900
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

any outstanding error have not been coded or were nto accepted in THCIC as a correction

=====

PROVIDER: Physicians Surgical Hospital-Panhandle Campus
THCIC ID: 852901
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Any outstanding errors were nto coded or THCIC woud not accept as a correction.

=====

PROVIDER: Cedar Park Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 858300
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

There are 200+ Inpatient Errors that have been verified as accurate with our Patient Accounting System but still showed up as errors on the IP THCIC Claims. These errors included patient SS#, Patient DOB, Physician loaded, and Insurance Plans error out as well. We are confident in our assessment of these errors and that the information is accurate. The patient control number errors will not allow us to update it.

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Rockwall
THCIC ID: 859900
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Files may contain duplicates and/or missing claims all data is accurate

=====

PROVIDER: Seton Medical Center Williamson
THCIC ID: 861700
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

=====

PROVIDER: St Lukes Sugar Land Hospital
THCIC ID: 869700
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 4, 2017 do not accurately reflect patient volume or severity.

Patient Volume

Data reflects administrative claims data (Uniform Billing data elements) that are a snapshot of claims one month following quarter-end. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

More importantly, not all clinically significant conditions can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-10-CM diagnosis coding system such as ejection fraction. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

=====

PROVIDER: Seton Medical Center Hays
THCIC ID: 921000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

=====

PROVIDER: St Lukes Lakeside Hospital
THCIC ID: 923000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 4, 2017 do not accurately reflect patient volume or severity.

Patient Volume

Data reflects administrative claims data (Uniform Billing data elements) that are a snapshot of claims one month following quarter-end. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

More importantly, not all clinically significant conditions can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-10-CM diagnosis coding system such as ejection fraction. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Flower Mound
THCIC ID: 943000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Files may contain duplicates and/or missing claims all data is accurate

=====

PROVIDER: Hermann Drive Surgical Hospital
THCIC ID: 945500
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to the volume of data and limited resources within the hospital, I cannot properly analyze the data with 100% accuracy. It is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits within the constraints of THCIC deadline process. The data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments. At this time, I elect to certify the data.

=====

PROVIDER: Seton Medical Center Harker Heights
THCIC ID: 971000
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

i WISH TO CERTIFY 4TH QUARTER INPATIENTS AS IS.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Alliance
THCIC ID: 972900
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH696450
QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient

Texas Health Alliance CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Data Content

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Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

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Length of Stay

The length of stay data element contained in the states certification file is only three characters long. Thus any patients discharged with a length of stay greater than 999 days will not be accurately stored within the certification database. It is rare that patients stay longer than 999 days, therefore, it is not anticipated that this limitation will affect this data.

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If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Alliance recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

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Cost/ Revenue Codes

4q2017_Certification_Comments.txt

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

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=====

PROVIDER: Star Medical Center
THCIC ID: 973390
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

2017 4th QT inpatient

=====

PROVIDER: Mesa Springs
THCIC ID: 973430
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The 4th Qtr, 2017 data for ethnicity is incorrect. We are working on our system to be able accurately report this statistic.

=====

PROVIDER: Wise Health Surgical Hospital
THCIC ID: 973840
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

The data for 4Q2017 is being certified with comment. All reported data is accurate and correct at the specific point in time that the data files are generated. Information is subject to change after files are generated and submitted to THICIC; any changes would be information collected or updated during the normal course of business.

Any claims errors generated for missing information for the Operating Physician or Invalid Value Codes are caused by system issue which did not affect the quality or accuracy of the claim data as it has been accepted and processed by the payer for reimbursement when appropriate.

=====

PROVIDER: Texas General Hospital Van Zandt Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 974380
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Missing Data from 10/01/2017 through 11/14/2017. Changed Software on 11/15/2017 and did not submit this data before that date.

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PROVIDER: Texas Rehab Hospital of Arlington
THCIC ID: 974730
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

No known errors by facility.

=====

PROVIDER: Plano Surgical Hospital
THCIC ID: 974920
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to the volume of data and limited resources within the hospital, I cannot properly analyze the data with 100% accuracy. It is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits within the constraints of THCIC deadline process. The data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments. At this time, I elect to certify the data.

=====

PROVIDER: Cumberland Surgical Hospital
THCIC ID: 974980

QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Errors in submitted data relate to missing SSN in cases where patient refused to supply requested information.

=====

PROVIDER: JPS Health Network - Trinity Springs North
THCIC ID: 975121
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

John Peter Smith Hospital (JPSH) is operated by JPS Health Network under the auspices of the Tarrant County Hospital District. The JPS Health Network is accredited by the Joint Commission. In addition, JPSH holds Joint Commission accreditation as a hospital.

JPSH is the only Texas Department of Health certified Level I Trauma Center in Tarrant County and includes the only psychiatric emergency center in the county. The hospital's services include intensive care for adults and newborns, an AIDS treatment center, a full range of obstetrical and gynecological services, adult inpatient care and an inpatient mental health treatment facility.

JPSH is a major teaching hospital offering, or providing through co-operative arrangements, postdoctoral training in orthopedics, obstetrics and gynecology, psychiatry, surgery, oral and maxillofacial surgery, radiology, sports medicine, podiatry and pharmacy. The family medicine residency is the largest hospital-based family medicine residency program in the nation.

In addition to JPSH, the JPS Health Network operates community health centers located in medically underserved areas of Tarrant County; school-based health clinics; outpatient programs for pregnant women, behavioral health and cancer patients; and a wide range of wellness education programs.

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PROVIDER: Bellaire Surgical Hospital
THCIC ID: 975131
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Due to the volume of data and limited resources within the hospital, I cannot properly analyze the data with 100% accuracy. It is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits within the constraints of THCIC deadline process. The data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments. At this time, I elect to certify the data.

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PROVIDER: Methodist Southlake Hospital
THCIC ID: 975153
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

No comments

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PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Lakeway
THCIC ID: 975165
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Lakeway
THCIC ID: 975165
QUARTER: Q4
YEAR: 2017

Submission Timing

Baylor estimates that our data volumes for the calendar year time period submitted may include 96% to 100% of all cases for that time period. The state requires us to submit a snapshot of billed claims, extracted from our database approximately 20 days following the close of the calendar year quarter. Any discharged patient encounters not billed by this cut-off date will not be included in the quarterly submission file sent in.

Physician Identification

All physician license numbers and names have been validated as accurate against a physician reference file that is derived from information provided by the Texas Board of Medical Examiners. Those physicians not yet assigned a state license number at the time of data submission are given temporary numbers by the hospital for state reporting purposes. Due to the "lag" time between when the physician is licensed and when THCIC receives the information, some physicians may remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner

Reference Files.

The THCIC minimum data set houses only two (2) physician fields; Attending Physician and Operating or Other Physician (if applicable) as reflected on the UB04 billing document. Mortality rates, case costs and other data calculated for this population of physicians may be misrepresentative. Due to the complexity of most inpatient admissions many physicians provide care to patients throughout an admission. Consulting physicians may prescribe and treat patients on behalf of the physician listed as the attending physician. Analysis of this physician information should carefully consider that significant variations in case count, case cost, and mortality may not be directly related to the care provided by the attending physician, but also reflect the varied use of consultants.

While hospitals document many treating physicians (surgeons and consultants) for each case, THCIC maintains only one (1) additional physician per case besides the Attending. "Other" physician case volumes, mortality, case costs and LOS, will frequently be inaccurate because of this limitation. Surgeons and consulting physicians beyond one that may have been involved on a case will not be credited with providing care for that patient. Analysis of "other physician" information should, therefore, take into consideration that a significant portion of treating physicians are excluded from the patient cases.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government and all hospitals must comply.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code as many as 25 diagnoses and 25 procedures for each patient record. One limitation of using the ICD-10-CM system is that there does not exist a code for every possible diagnosis and procedure due to the continued evolution of medicine; new codes are added yearly as coding manuals are updated.

Normal Newborns

The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. The actual experience of a newborn is captured elsewhere in the file, namely, in the ICD-10-CM diagnosis. Admission source does not give an accurate picture.

Mortalities

Due to insurance payer requirements, organ donor patients are readmitted and expired in the system to address the issues of separate payers. This results in double counting some "expired" cases which will increase the

mortality figure reported and not accurately reflect the actual number of mortalities.

Race/Ethnicity

There are no national standards regarding patient race categorization so hospitals may not have the same designations from which patients can choose. The state has recently attempted to standardize a valid set of race codes for this project but these are not universally used by all hospitals. Each hospital must independently map their specific codes to the state's race code categories. This mapping may not be consistent across hospitals. Thus epidemiology analysis of these two data fields does not accurately describe the true population served by the hospital. "Asian or Pacific Islander" encounters are not broken out separately but are included in the "Other" race category.

Standard Source of Payment

The standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB04 billing record. In order to meet this requirement each payer identification must be categorized into the appropriate standard source of payment value. It should also be noted that the primary payer associated to the patient's encounter record might change over time.

Additionally, those payers identified contractually as both "HMO, and PPO" are categorized as "Commercial PPO". Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Certification Process

Given the current certification software, there is not an efficient mechanism to edit and correct the data. In addition, due to hospital volumes, it is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits. Within the constraints of the current THCIC process, the data is certified to the best of our knowledge as accurate and complete given the above comments.

=====

PROVIDER: Texas Health Hospital Clearfork
THCIC ID: 975167
QUARTER: 4

YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

THCIC ID: TH975167

QUARTER: 2017 Quarter 4 Inpatient

Texas Health Clearfork CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Data Content

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If a medical record is unavailable for coding the encounter is not billed and is not included in the data submission. This represents a rare event that is less than 1% of the encounter volume.

Diagnosis and Procedures

Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease, or ICD-10-CM. This is mandated by the federal government. The hospital complies with the guidelines for assigning these diagnosis codes, however, this is often driven by physician's subjective criteria for defining a diagnosis. For example, while one physician may diagnose a patient with anemia when the patient's blood hemoglobin level falls below 9.5, another physician may not diagnose the patient with anemia until their blood hemoglobin level is below 9.0. In both situations, a diagnosis of anemia is correctly assigned, but the criteria used by the physician to determine that diagnosis was different. An apples to apples comparison cannot be made, which makes it difficult to obtain an accurate comparison of hospital or physician performance.

The codes also do not distinguish between conditions present at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital and those occurring during hospitalization. For example, if a code indicating an infection is made, it is not always possible to determine if the patient had an infection prior to admission, or developed an infection during their hospitalization. This makes it difficult to obtain accurate information regarding things such as complication rates.

The data submitted matches the state's reporting requirements but may be incomplete due to a limitation on the number of diagnoses and procedures the state allows us to include for each patient. In other words, the state's data file may not fully represent all diagnoses treated by the hospital or all procedures performed, which can alter the true picture of a patient's hospitalization, sometimes significantly.

The codes are assigned based on documentation in the patient's chart and are

used by hospitals for billing purposes. The hospital can code up to 99 diagnoses and 99 procedures for each patient record. The state is requiring us to submit ICD-10-CM data on each patient but has limited the number of diagnoses and procedures to the first 25 diagnoses codes and the first 25 procedure codes. As a result, the data sent by us does meet state requirements but cannot reflect all the codes an individual patient's record may have been assigned. This means also that true total volumes may not be represented by the state's data file, which therefore make percentage calculations inaccurate (i.e. mortality percentages for any given diagnosis or procedure, percentage of patients in each severity of illness category). It would be obvious; therefore, those sicker patients (more diagnoses and procedures) are less accurately reflected by the 837 format. It then stands to reason that hospitals, which treat sicker patients, are likewise less accurately reflected.

Length of Stay

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Admit Source data for Normal Newborn

When the Admit type is equal to newborn, the admit source should indicate whether the baby was a normal newborn, premature delivery, sick baby, extramural birth, or information not available. The best way to focus on severity of illness regarding an infant would be to check the infant's diagnosis at discharge, not the admitting source code. Many hospital information systems and registration process defaults to normal delivery as the admission source. Therefore, admission source does not always give an accurate picture.

If admission source is used to examine length of stay or mortality for normal neonates using the admit source to identify the cases, the data will reflect premature and sick babies mixed in with the normal newborn data. Texas Health Clearfork recommends use of ICD10 coding data to identify neonates. This methodology will ensure correct identification of the clinical status of the newborn admission.

Race/Ethnicity

As of the December 7, 2001, the THCIC Board indicated that they would be creating guidelines for use by hospitals. These guidelines will provide better clarity for the accurate collection of this data. Hospitals do not routinely collect race and ethnicity as part of the admission process, that this has been added to meet the THCIC requirement. Our admissions staff indicates that many patients are very sensitive about providing race and ethnicity information. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the patient's admission, race and ethnicity data may be subjectively collected. Therefore, the race and ethnicity data may not provide an accurate representation of the patient population for a facility.

Standard/Non-Standard Source of Payment

The standard and non-standard source of payment codes are an example of data required by the state that is not contained within the standard UB92 billing record. In order to meet this requirement, each payer identifier must be

categorized into the appropriate standard and non-standard source of payment value. These values might not accurately reflect the hospital payer information, because those payers identified contractually as both HMO, and PPO are categorized as Commercial PPO. Thus any true managed care comparisons by contract type (HMO vs. PPO) may result in inaccurate analysis.

Cost/ Revenue Codes

The state requires that hospitals submit revenue information including charges. It is important to note that charges are not equal to actual payments received by the hospital or hospital cost for performing the service. Typically actual payments are much less than charges due to managed care-negotiated discounts and denial of payment by insurance companies. Charges also do not reflect the actual cost to deliver the care that each patient needs.

Discharge Disposition

THR has identified a problem with a vendor (Siemens) extract that diverts some patient discharges to home as opposed to rehab. THR will communicate this issue and the plan to address this issue in writing to the THCIC Executive Director.

=====

PROVIDER: Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas
THCIC ID: 975215
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

As the public teaching hospital in Austin and Travis County, Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas (DSMCUT) serves patients who are often unable to access primary care. It is more likely that these patients will present in the later more complex stage of their disease.

It is also a regional referral center, receiving patient transfers from hospitals not able to serve a complex mix of patients. Treatment of these very complex, seriously ill patients increases the hospital's cost of care, length of stay and mortality rates.

As the Regional Level I Trauma Center, DSMCUT serves severely injured patients. Lengths of stay and mortality rates are most appropriately compared to other trauma centers.

All physician license numbers and names have been validated with the Physician and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiner website as accurate but some remain unidentified in the THCIC Practitioner Reference Files.

These data are submitted by the hospital as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

4q2017_Certification_Comments.txt

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PROVIDER: The Hospitals of Providence Horizon City Campus
THCIC ID: 975233
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

We elect to certify the data for Inpatient/Outpatient 4th quarter 2017. We are certifying this dataset with the understanding that, due to new facility opening, the dataset is incomplete.

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PROVIDER: Encompass Health Rehab Hospital Pearland
THCIC ID: 975246
QUARTER: 4
YEAR: 2017

Certified With Comments

Certified 3-6-2018