General Comments on 3rd Quarter 2014 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 facility's standard data collection process, there may be an increase in the error rate for these elements.

· Facilities 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.

· Facilities are required to submit data within 60 days after the close of a calendar quarter (facility data submission vendor deadlines may be sooner). Depending on facilities' collection and billing cycles, not all services 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.

· Conclusions drawn from the data are subject to errors caused by the inability of the facility 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 facilities as their best effort to meet statutory requirements.

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PROVIDER: UT MD Anderson Cancer Center
THCIC ID: 000105
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Due to system and technical limitations, some claims were submitted without diagnosis/procedure codes prior to being prepared for submission. The claims are not submitted to payors until the claims are coded.

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PROVIDER: Baptist St Anthonys Hospital
THCIC ID: 001000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

I elect to certify this data is accurate to the best of my knowledge as of this date of certification 2/11/2014.

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PROVIDER: Matagorda Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 006000
QUARTER: 3

YEAR: 2014

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: Good Shepherd Medical Center-Marshall
THCIC ID: 020000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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 Medical Center-Garland
THCIC ID: 027000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Due to the sheer volume of OP data, we have limited resources as a hospital to analyze the data. Regarding the mandate to communicate the Certification reports to physicians The State does not offer a secure mechanism for us to communicate other than the hard copy reports. At this time, we as a hospital are moving to limit or eliminate paper distribution and we do not have an internal system to communicate to all physicians feasibly.

Quality Trending of data over a few years is important to define outcome and quality. A small sampling of data (i.e. one year) does not explain outcome.

We recommend the Patient communicate with the Hospital and the Physician regarding data.
Patient and physician preference contributes to the care rendered to the patient and the data does not always reflect this.

Patients and physicians consider many factors when making health care decisions that are not available in administrative data. These include a patients preference for life-sustaining treatments, functional status, and other factors.

We support the Patient, Provider, and Payer and empowered, educated decision-making. Quality improvement is not new; it is an on-going commitment.

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PROVIDER: Good Shepherd Medical Center

THCIC ID: 029000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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 Medical Center at Carrollton
THCIC ID: 042000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Baylor Medical Center Carrollton OUTPATIENT DATA
THCIC ID: 042000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Huguley Hospital
THCIC ID: 047000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The following comments reflect concerns, errors, or limitations of discharge data for THCIC mandatory reporting requirements as of Une 1, 2015. 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
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.

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 ICD-9-CM and CPT. 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-9-CM and CPT 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.

Given the current certification software, due to hospital volumes, it is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits. To meet the state's mandates to submit hospital Outpatient visits with specific procedures, Texas Health Huguley underwent a major program conversion to the HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format.

The quarterly data to the best of our knowledge is accurate and complete given the above.

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PROVIDER: San Angelo Community Medical Center
THCIC ID: 056000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Elected Not to Certify

elect not to certify

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PROVIDER: St Lukes Episcopal Hospital
THCIC ID: 118000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 3, 2014 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 that have been billed prior to the reporting deadline. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

Not all clinically significant conditions, such as the hearts ejection fraction, can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-9-CM diagnosis coding system. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

Payer Source
A payer source mapping discrepancy has been identified. The HIS vendor is working towards a resolution.

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PROVIDER: University Medical Center
THCIC ID: 145000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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: JPS Surgical Center-Arlington
THCIC ID: 153300
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

John Peter Smith Hospital (JPSH) is operated by the 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 was the first Texas Department of Health certified Level I Trauma Center in Tarrant County and includes the only 24-hour, seven-day a week psychiatric emergency center in the area. The hospital's special services include intensive care for adults and newborns, a special AIDS treatment center, a skilled nursing unit, a full-range of obstetrical and gynecological services, inpatient care for patients of all ages and an inpatient mental health treatment facility.

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

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

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist HEB
THCIC ID: 182000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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 outpatient claims for patients that receive outpatient surgical or radiological services, 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 outpatient hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease (ICD-9-CM) and Current Procedural Terminology Codes (CPT Codes). 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-9-CM / CPT data on each outpatient receiving surgical or radiological services, 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.

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.

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PROVIDER: The Heart Hospital Baylor Denton
THCIC ID: 208100
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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PROVIDER: DeHaven Surgical Center
THCIC ID: 228002
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

submitted by Lisa Myers 10-14-14

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital-Fort Worth
THCIC ID: 235000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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The state requires us to submit outpatient claims for patients that receive outpatient surgical or radiological services, 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 outpatient hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease (ICD-9-CM) and Current Procedural Terminology Codes (CPT Codes). 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.

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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-9-CM / CPT data on each outpatient receiving surgical or radiological services, 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.

Length of Stay
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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.

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PROVIDER: Wise Regional Health System
THCIC ID: 254001
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The data for 3Q2014 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 THCIC; any changes would be information collected or updated during the normal course of business.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital-Stephenville
THCIC ID: 256000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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PROVIDER: South Austin Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 262001
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Q3 2014 Data

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PROVIDER: University Medical Center of El Paso
THCIC ID: 263000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

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.

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PROVIDER: East Texas Medical Center-Mount Vernon
THCIC ID: 282000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

This facility has ceased operations as of December 31, 2014.

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PROVIDER: Surgery Center of Plano
THCIC ID: 284000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

2014 3rd Quarter

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PROVIDER: Baylor Scott & White Medical Center at Waxahachie
THCIC ID: 285000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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PROVIDER: East Texas Medical Center-Clarksville
THCIC ID: 292000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

East Texas Medical Center Regional Healthcare System has ceased operations effective December 23, 2014.

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PROVIDER: Wilson N Jones Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 297000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Continue to work with vendor to reduce errors.

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PROVIDER: Baylor Medical Center-Irving
THCIC ID: 300000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Kaufman
THCIC ID: 303000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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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-9-CM / CPT data on each outpatient receiving surgical or radiological services, 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.

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.

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PROVIDER: Northwest Texas Hospital
THCIC ID: 318000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Cleburne
THCIC ID: 323000

QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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 outpatient claims for patients that receive outpatient surgical or radiological services, 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 outpatient hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease (ICD 9 CM) and Current Procedural Terminology Codes (CPT Codes). 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.

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PROVIDER: Baylor University Medical Center
THCIC ID: 331000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Baylor Medical Center at BUMC OUTPATIENT DATA
THCIC ID: 331000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Due to the sheer volume of OP data, we have limited resources as a hospital to analyze the data. Regarding the mandate to communicate the Certification reports to physicians The State does not offer a secure mechanism for us to communicate other than the hard copy reports. At this time, we as a hospital are moving to limit or eliminate paper distribution and we do not have an internal system to communicate to all physicians feasibly.

Quality Trending of data over a few years is important to define outcome and quality. A small sampling of data (i.e. one year) does not explain outcome.

We recommend the Patient communicate with the Hospital and the Physician

regarding data.
Patient and physician preference contributes to the care rendered to the patient and the data does not always reflect this.

Patients and physicians consider many factors when making health care decisions that are not available in administrative data. These include a patients preference for life-sustaining treatments, functional status, and other factors.

We support the Patient, Provider, and Payer and empowered, educated decision-making. Quality improvement is not new; it is an on-going commitment.

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PROVIDER: Cook Childrens Medical Center
THCIC ID: 332000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Cook Children's Medical Center has submitted and certified 3rd QUARTER 2014 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 3rd QUARTER OF 2014.

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: Denton Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 336001

QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Information Valid

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PROVIDER: Baylor All Saints Medical Center-Fort Worth
THCIC ID: 363000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Baylor Medical Center at ASFW OUTPATIENT DATA
THCIC ID: 363000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

CERTIFIED WITH COMMENTS

Due to the sheer volume of OP data, we have limited resources as a hospital to analyze the data. Regarding the mandate to communicate the Certification reports to physicians The State does not offer a secure mechanism for us to communicate other than the hard copy reports. At this time, we as a hospital are moving to limit or eliminate paper distribution and we do not have an internal system to communicate to all physicians feasibly.

Quality Trending of data over a few years is important to define outcome and quality. A small sampling of data (i.e. one year) does not explain outcome.

We recommend the Patient communicate with the Hospital and the Physician regarding data.
Patient and physician preference contributes to the care rendered to the patient and the data does not always reflect this.

Patients and physicians consider many factors when making health care decisions that are not available in administrative data. These include a patients preference for life-sustaining treatments, functional status, and other factors.

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PROVIDER: Victoria Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 396003
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

After performing a billing audit, there may have been 2 surgeries for which the date of service was corrected. I am unsure if this was corrected before or after the data what sent to system13. Otherwise, all data is correct to the best of my knowledge.

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PROVIDER: John Peter Smith Hospital
THCIC ID: 409000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

John Peter Smith Hospital (JPSH) is operated by the 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 was the first Texas Department of Health certified Level I Trauma Center in Tarrant County and includes the only 24-hour, seven-day a week psychiatric emergency center in the area. The hospital's special services include intensive care for adults and newborns, a special AIDS treatment center, a skilled nursing unit, a full-range of obstetrical and gynecological services, inpatient care for patients of all ages and an inpatient mental health treatment facility.

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

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

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 422000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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
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(CPT Codes). 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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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.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas
THCIC ID: 431000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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PROVIDER: DeTar Hospital-Navarro
THCIC ID: 453000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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; DeTar Health Center; a comprehensive Cardiology Program including Cardiothoracic Surgery; Accredited Chest Pain

Center; Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation Centers; Inpatient Geriatric Mental Health Center; Outpatient Mental Health Lifestyle Center, the 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: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Azle
THCIC ID: 469000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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PROVIDER: Parkland Memorial Hospital
THCIC ID: 474000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Parkland Health & Hospital System comprises a network of neighborhood-based health centers and Parkland Memorial Hospital, which was established in 1894. The Parkland System is a $995 million enterprise that is licensed for 968 beds and employs approximately 10,126 staff. 90,396 patients received outpatient care
in the clinics (both on campus and in the neighborhood-based health centers) this quarter.

Specific Data Concerns

As in other large academic medical centers, teams of physicians rotating at intervals care for patients. The THCIC dataset allows only one primary physician
to be assigned to the patient for the entire inpatient stay. In our institution,
this represents the physician caring for the patient at the time of discharge. Many patients, particularly long-term care patients are actually managed by as many as three to four different teams and attending physicians. For this reason, the practice of attributing patient outcomes to the report card of a single physician may result in misleading information.

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PROVIDER: Baylor Regional Medical Center-Grapevine
THCIC ID: 513000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Outpatient has issues. Similar to the quarter before we are 28% off in volumes.

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PROVIDER: Bellville St Joseph Health Center
THCIC ID: 552000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

certified by karen McEuen

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital-Southwest Fort Worth
THCIC ID: 627000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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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.

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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.

Additional Comment
The Event Summary and Charges Breakout have a slightly greater than normal variance.

==========

PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Plano
THCIC ID: 664000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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 outpatient hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease (ICD 9 CM) and Current Procedural Terminology Codes (CPT Codes). 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-9-CM / CPT data on each outpatient receiving surgical or radiological services, 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.

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==========
PROVIDER: Our Childrens House Baylor
THCIC ID: 710000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The OCH OP Discharges total appears materially low I count a total of 4,414. This report has 577. But the distribution mixes (as above with the inpatients) appear reasonable. It does not appear that same day surgeries are the only outpatient cases populating the THCIC report, but they are the majority (I count 409 in this period). Until a report is available from THCIC that gives a listing of the individual accounts included here we wont be able to identify a common pattern causing the discrepancies.

==========
PROVIDER: Ennis Regional Medical Center
THCIC ID: 714500
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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

==========
PROVIDER: Nacogdoches Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 723800
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

As is.

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Allen
THCIC ID: 724200
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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encounter.

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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.

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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.

==========
PROVIDER: El Paso Specialty Hospital
THCIC ID: 728200
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Omar Garza is approving this information.
Omar Garza is the CFO of el Paso Specialty Hospital

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Health Heart & Vascular Hospital
THCIC ID: 730001
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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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.

==========
PROVIDER: St Lukes Hospital at the Vintage
THCIC ID: 740000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 3, 2014 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 that have been billed prior to the reporting deadline. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

Not all clinically significant conditions, such as the hearts ejection fraction, can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-9-CM diagnosis coding system. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

Payer Source
A payer source mapping discrepancy has been identified. The HIS vendor is working towards a resolution.

==========
PROVIDER: Baylor Heart & Vascular Center
THCIC ID: 784400
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The OP Discharges total appears materially low I count 6,305. THCIC report has 4,988. Average charge per case is 22% higher on THCIC report. But the distribution mixes all appear reasonable. I suspect the services we provide to BUMC inpatients under registered BHVH outpatient accounts could be responsible for some of the discrepancies. But until a report is available from THCIC that gives a listing of the individual accounts included here we wont be able to identify a common pattern causing the discrepancies

==========
PROVIDER: CHRISTUS St Michael Health System
THCIC ID: 788001
QUARTER: 3

YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Certified to the best of my knowledge.

==========

PROVIDER: Christus St Michael Hospital Atlanta
THCIC ID: 788003
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

To the best of my knowledge.

==========

PROVIDER: St Lukes The Woodlands Hospital
THCIC ID: 793100
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 3, 2014 do not accurately reflect patient volume or severity.

Patient Volume

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Severity

Not all clinically significant conditions, such as the hearts ejection fraction, can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-9-CM diagnosis coding system. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

Payer Source
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==========

PROVIDER: Medical Village Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 804300
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

There is one instance where the patient control number was mistyped, and one instance where the procedure date was inadvertantly entered in lieu of the patients date of birth.

==========

PROVIDER: Baylor Surgical Hospital-Fort Worth
THCIC ID: 804500
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Baylor Surgical Hospital at Fort Worth Outpatient Center 3Qtr2014 claims were included with the hospital Outpatient claims.

==========
PROVIDER: Community Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 807500
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Elected Not to Certify

elect not to certify

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Southlake
THCIC ID: 812800
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The file may contain duplicate or missing claims

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Institute for Surgery-Texas Health Presbyterian-Dallas
THCIC ID: 813100
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

This file may contain duplicate or missing claims

==========
PROVIDER: Las Colinas Medical Center
THCIC ID: 814000
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

* Accounts has no SSN#

*THCIC removed potential confidential information from this comment.

==========
PROVIDER: Baylor Regional Medical Center-Plano
THCIC ID: 814001
 QUARTER: 3
    YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Due to the sheer volume of OP data, we have limited resources as a hospital to analyze the data. Regarding the mandate to communicate the Certification reports to physicians The State does not offer a secure mechanism for us to communicate other than the hard copy reports. At this time, we as a hospital are moving to limit or eliminate paper distribution and we do not have an internal system to communicate to all physicians feasibly.

Quality Trending of data over a few years is important to define outcome and quality. A small sampling of data (i.e. one year) does not explain outcome.

We recommend the Patient communicate with the Hospital and the Physician regarding data.
Patient and physician preference contributes to the care rendered to the patient and the data does not always reflect this.

Patients and physicians consider many factors when making health care decisions that are not available in administrative data. These include a patients preference for life-sustaining treatments, functional status, and other factors.

We support the Patient, Provider, and Payer and empowered, educated decision-making. Quality improvement is not new; it is an on-going commitment.

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Health Center-Diagnostics & Surgery Plano
THCIC ID: 815300
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The file may contain duplicate or missing claims

==========
PROVIDER: Spine Team Texas ASC
THCIC ID: 816200
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

REVIEWED

==========
PROVIDER: Spinecare
THCIC ID: 816900
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Elected Not to Certify

DATA IS GENERATED FROM FACILITY'S SCHEDULING SOFTWARE. WE CANNOT GUARANTEE 100% ACCURACY

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Denton

THCIC ID: 820800
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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==========

PROVIDER: Memorial Hermann Surgery Center Woodlands
THCIC ID: 825400
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

No comments

==========

PROVIDER: Dallas Endoscopy Center
THCIC ID: 826200
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

I DID A SPOT CHECK ON SEVERAL CALIMS ANS IT APPEARS TO LOOK ACCURATE.

==========

PROVIDER: University General SurgiCare
THCIC ID: 837900
QUARTER: 3

YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

We show 265 cases but there were cases that were partial billed due to cancellation after being admitted and supplies were used in the clinical area

==========

PROVIDER: Simmons Ambulatory Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 843300
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Parkland Health & Hospital System comprises a network of neighborhood-based health centers and Parkland Memorial Hospital, which was established in 1894. The Parkland System is a $995 million enterprise that is licensed for 968 beds and employs approximately 10,126 staff. Approximately 1,623 patients received outpatient care in the clinics (both on campus and in the neighborhood-based health centers) this quarter.

Specific Data Concerns

As in other large academic medical centers, teams of physicians rotating at intervals care for patients. The THCIC dataset allows only one primary physician to be assigned to the patient for the entire inpatient stay. In our institution, this represents the physician caring for the patient at the time of discharge. Many patients, particularly long-term care patients are actually managed by as many as three to four different teams and attending physicians. For this reason, the practice of attributing patient outcomes to the report card of a single physician may result in misleading information.

==========

PROVIDER: Texoma Medical Center
THCIC ID: 847000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Certified updated file

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Rockwall
THCIC ID: 859900
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

This file may contain duplicates or missing claims

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PROVIDER: St Lukes Sugar Land Hospital
THCIC ID: 869700
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The data reports for Quarter 3, 2014 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 that have been billed prior to the reporting deadline. If the encounter has not yet been billed, data will not be reflected in this quarter.

Severity

Not all clinically significant conditions, such as the hearts ejection fraction, can be captured and reflected in the various billing data elements including the ICD-9-CM diagnosis coding system. As a result, the true clinical picture of the patient population cannot be adequately demonstrated using admissions and billing data.

Payer Source
A payer source mapping discrepancy has been identified. The HIS vendor is working towards a resolution.

==========

PROVIDER: Spine Team Texas Rockwall ASC
THCIC ID: 902000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

REVIEWED

==========

PROVIDER: CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Physicians ASC New Braunfels
THCIC ID: 917000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

99.57%

==========

PROVIDER: St Lukes Lakeside Hospital
THCIC ID: 923000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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Patient Volume

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Payer Source
A payer source mapping discrepancy has been identified. The HIS vendor is working towards a resolution.

==========
PROVIDER: Memorial Hermann Surgery Center Richmond
THCIC ID: 934000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

*

*THCIC removed potential confidential information from this comment.

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Flower Mound
THCIC ID: 943000
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

This file may contain duplicates or missing claims

==========
PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Fort Worth Outpatient Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 970100
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Data Content
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The state requires us to submit outpatient claims for patients that receive outpatient surgical or radiological services, 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.

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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 outpatient hospital stay are coded by the hospital using a universal standard called the International Classification of Disease (ICD 9 CM) and Current Procedural Terminology Codes (CPT Codes). 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-9-CM / CPT data on each outpatient receiving surgical or radiological services, 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.

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
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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.

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Outpatient Surgery Center Alliance
THCIC ID: 970110
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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PROVIDER: Dodson Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 970400
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Cook Children's Medical Center has submitted and certified 3rd QUARTER

2014 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 3rd QUARTER OF 2014.

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: Huguley Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 971500
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The following comments reflect concerns, errors, or limitations of discharge data for THCIC mandatory reporting requirements as of June 1, 2015. 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
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.

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Patient diagnoses and procedures for a particular hospital stay are coded by the hospital using ICD-9-CM and CPT. 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-9-CM and CPT 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.

Given the current certification software, due to hospital volumes, it is not feasible to perform encounter level audits and edits. To meet the state's mandates to submit hospital Outpatient visits with specific procedures, Texas Health Huguley underwent a major program conversion to the HCFA 837 EDI electronic claim format.

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PROVIDER: Baylor Medical Center McKinney
THCIC ID: 971900
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

Due to the sheer volume of OP data, we have limited resources as a hospital to analyze the data. Regarding the mandate to communicate the Certification reports to physicians The State does not offer a secure mechanism for us to communicate other than the hard copy reports. At this time, we as a hospital are moving to limit or eliminate paper distribution and we do not have an internal system to communicate to all physicians feasibly.

Quality Trending of data over a few years is important to define outcome and quality. A small sampling of data (i.e. one year) does not explain outcome.

We recommend the Patient communicate with the Hospital and the Physician regarding data.
Patient and physician preference contributes to the care rendered to the patient and the data does not always reflect this.

Patients and physicians consider many factors when making health care decisions that are not available in administrative data. These include a patients preference for life-sustaining treatments, functional status, and other factors.

We support the Patient, Provider, and Payer and empowered, educated decision-making. Quality improvement is not new; it is an on-going commitment.

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PROVIDER: Pain Management Professionals of Baytown
THCIC ID: 972100

QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

These are correct to the best of my knowledge

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PROVIDER: Digestive Disease Center
THCIC ID: 972400
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

No Comments

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PROVIDER: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Alliance
THCIC ID: 972900
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

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PROVIDER: Austin Midtown Ambulatory Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 972950
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

COMPLETED BY Y.CHONG

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PROVIDER: Wise Regional Health System Bridgeport Campus
THCIC ID: 973110
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

The data for 3Q2014 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 THCIC; any changes would be information collected or updated during the normal course of business.

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PROVIDER: Parkway Surgical and Cardiovascular Hospital
THCIC ID: 973840
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

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PROVIDER: Magna Surgery Center
THCIC ID: 973950
QUARTER: 3
YEAR: 2014

Certified With Comments

At least one claim had charges reported incorrectly high. We are correcting this in future quarterly submissions. Thank you.