Acquiring, Implementing and Using Hospital & Emergency Department Data: The Utah Experience

Utah Environmental Public Health Tracking Network

Utah Department of Health

The Context

- R428-10: Health Data Authority for Hospital Impatient Reporting
  - Establishes the Hospital Discharge Database (HDD)
  - Specifies data uses

- R426-7: Emergency Medical Services Pre-Hospital Data System Rule
  - Establishes the Emergency Department Encounter Database (EDED)
  - Specifies data uses

- R386-703: Injury Reporting Rule
  - Allows reporting via the HDD

- 13 year history of injury data sharing experience

What we get

- HD data from 1992 – completed year
- ED data from 1996 – completed year
- Data includes
  - Patient identification if available (name, hospital record number)
  - Demographics (age, sex)
  - Location information if available (address, city, ZIP code)
  - Event dates if available (admission, discharge, duration, year)
  - Diagnostic codes
  - Payer information

Issues

Completeness Report

Data Element	HDD	EDED
Patient Name	33.62%	99.89%
Geocodeable Address	8.30%	6.12%
ZIP Code	89.91%	94.18%
County	89.90%	94.18%
Data of Admission or Encounter	79.93%	100 %
After back calculating	99.86%	
Birth Date	99.93%	99.99%
Age	99.97%	99.99%
Sex	100 %	100 %

Only records of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and Ischemic Heart Disease evaluated.

Acquisition

- Utah Department of Health
  - Standard public-use policy
  - Department GRAMA policy
  - Standard use liability statement
  - Department level data protection standards

- Office of Health Care Statistics
  - Public use policy
  - Data request rule

- Utah-EPHTN
  - Data sharing agreement
  - Scientific Review Board control
  - Third-party application and approval process
  - Metadata

Acquisition Tricks (so simple …)

- Know the environment
  - Legal requirements for data stewardship
  - Operational requirements for data stewardship

- Give added value

- Facilitate (make it as easy as possible)

- Appreciate, acknowledge and promote
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Examples of EPHTN Use

- Implemented into the Rapid Inquiry Facility (RIF) GIS application
    - Linkage via geometrics
    - Used for public health surveillance
    - Used to investigate community complaints

- Health Hazards Assessment Program
    - Linkage via exposure
    - Used for public health assessment reports

- Available on IBIS-PH
    - Linkage via published indicators
    - Used to inform

- Used to complete the Utah Injury Registry
    - Used for program specific injury investigations

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