



Maryland Hospitalization Data for the Maryland Tracking Network: Retrospective Assessment

*Hospitalization Data Acquisition for
Tracking, NAHDO Webinar, December
10, 2009, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., ET*



MD Data Sharing Agreement

- IP hospitalization and AC (ED) visits available from Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC)/HSCRC
- Challenge: Re-release of hospitalization data to CDC required in-depth discussions with MHCC; aided by NAHDO and multi-state discussions
- DSA template adapted to MHCC IP hospitalization and ED data availability
- DSA ratified on August 8, 2008

Data Content

- Variables in the DSA (~800,000 IP and ~5,000,000 ED records per year)
 - Admit and discharge dates, DOB and admit hour
 - Nature, source and admit from ER
 - Patient demographics (sex, race, ethnicity, age—entered & computed)
 - County and five digit zip code of residence
 - Principal diagnosis & 14 (IP) or 15 (ED) other diagnoses, E-Code, Length of stay



Data Quality & Usage

- Data Quality
 - Data dictionaries accurate
 - Consistently formatted variables
 - Minimal data entry or coding errors
 - No duplicate records found
- Usage
 - EPHT linkage pilot study
 - BenMAP
 - DHMH data requests

Retrospective Evaluation

- Strengths
 - Maryland health code determines data sharing policies
 - Umbrella MOU between DHMH and HSCRC
 - Most DSA data access and use issues resolved with assistance from NAHDO and use of other state examples
 - MD CEHC/EPHT designated gatekeeper
 - Population based data source
 - Co-morbidities
 - Hour of admission
 - No recall bias, as is the case with the BRFSS
- Limitation
 - No street addresses (zip codes only)

Questions?

Maryland EPHT Program (DHMH):

- John T. Braggio, PhD, MPH, Coordinator, jbraggio@dhmh.state.md.us, 410-767-6661 (Presenter)
- Clifford S. Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH, PI
- Jed Miller, MD, Co-PI (Maryland Department of the Environment)