

Mgmt 444

Guide to the California Utilization Data

You should find two files at the course page containing patient-level hospitalization data provided by California's Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). The data are from 1996 and 1997; OSHPD restricts public access of more recent data. These data are very representative of what is available in many current hospital data bases. The data include all inpatient hospitalizations at all community hospitals in San Diego and Orange counties. (I restricted the data to two counties to keep the size of the data sets manageable.)

The variables in the data are as follows:

hospitalID: A unique 6 digit hospital identifier. The first two digit indicate the county (30=Orange; 37= San Diego).

died: A 0/1 indicator variable. A value of 0 indicates that the patient died during the hospital stay.

male: A 0/1 indicator. 1 = male.

agecat: A variable indicating age. 1=< 1 year, 2 = 1-4 years, 3 = 5-14, 4 = 15-24, ..., 14 = 85+

hispanic: A 0/1 indicator. 1 = Hispanic (There is no other variable measuring race.)

los: Inpatient length of stay.

drg: Diagnosis related group. There is a link at the course page that describes each DRG.

aprsev: "All patient severity" subclass. 1 = minor; 2 = moderate; 3 = major; 4 = extreme

pdiag: Principle diagnostic code; There is a link at the course page that details ICD diagnostic coding.

pproc: Principle procedure code. The same link will direct you to procedure codes.

odiag1 – odiag4: Other diagnostic codes reported by the hospital.

oproc1 – oproc4: Other procedure codes reported by the hospital.

year: Either 1996 or 1997

transferin: A 0/1 indicator. 1 = patient was transferred from another hospital

scheduled: A 0/1 indicator. 1 = admission was scheduled in advance

transferout: A 0/1 indicator. 1 = patient was discharged to another hospital

medicaid/medicare/private insurance: Indicator variables for insurance status. (Omitted category is "other" insurance, including no insurance.)

otherdiag: Simple count of other diagnoses reported by the hospital.

postoplos: Number of days between principle procedure and discharge. Note: postoplos should be less than or equal to los, though there are exceptions. Also note, postoplos is only available for 1996.