

SPARCS Update

New York State Department of Health

June 2014

Office of Quality and Patient Safety

General Announcements

2014 NYHIMA Annual Conference

SPARCS was represented at the 79th New York Health Information Management Association (NYHIMA) Conference on June 2nd, 2014 in Albany, New York. The presentation was given by SPARCS Operations staff and included a review of administrative updates, expanded race and ethnicity reporting, ICD-10 implementation, compliance and data quality, and data transparency and innovation. It covered the year in review and items for the upcoming year.

To obtain a copy of the presentation, e-mail sparcs@health.state.ny.us. The presentation will also be posted on the SPARCS public website.

Compliance and Quality Improvement

SPARCS Annual Reconciliation

2013 SPARCS Annual Reconciliation ends June 30, 2014. All SPARCS data for 2013 must be either submitted by this date, or the SPARCS coordinator must have requested an exception or an extension. These requests are made by e-mail to the SPARCS Bureau Mail Log, sparcs@health.state.ny.us.

An **exception** is a statement that the facility has reviewed its health facility's records and compared the number of stays or visits to the data submitted to SPARCS. It has confirmed that the actual number of patient visits or stays in 2013 is less than SPARCS' expected number of patient visits or stays based upon the 2012 SPARCS data. Exceptions are made by month and type of data, inpatient, emergency department, ambulatory surgery, or outpatient services.

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An **extension** request is for facilities experiencing technical difficulties submitting their SPARCS data. SPARCS allows two sequential extensions: July 31, 2014 and August 31, 2014. These extensions are issued one month at a time, and SPARCS coordinators must request them before the end of the previous month, either June 30, 2014 or July 31, 2014.

Data Collection, Storage, and Release

SPARCS Data Release: Limited and Identifiable

All applications to obtain limited or identifiable SPARCS data should be submitted to dprb@health.state.ny.us. All requests for SPARCS data (approved application required) should be submitted to sparcs@health.state.ny.us.

The following organizations received SPARCS data files in May 2014.

Organization	Data File Type	Years
Aspen Healthcare Metrics (MedAssets, Inc)	Limited	2012
Bassett Healthcare	Identifiable	2007-2011
Bon Secours Health System	Limited	2012-2013
City University of New York Graduate Center	Identifiable	2010-2012
DataBay Resources	Limited	2013
Hammes Company Advisory Services	Limited	2011-2012
HealthCare Intelligence, LLC	Identifiable	1997-2007
Ichan School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	Limited	2012
Loeb & Troper, Health Care Consulting	Limited	2012
Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases	Limited	2011-2013
Mount Sinai Medical Center	Identifiable	2010-2012
New York Presbyterian Hospital	Identifiable	2011-2012
New York University	Limited	2012
New York University Medical Center	Identifiable	2007-2010
New York University Medical Center	Limited	2006-2013
North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System	Limited	2001- 2012
ProPublica	Limited	2012
SUNY School of Public Health	Identifiable	2009-2011
Truven Health Analytics	Limited	2014
University of California-Berkeley	Identifiable	2012
University of Rochester Medical Center	Identifiable	2000-2012
Welsh Analytics, LLC	Limited	2013

The complete list of approved identifiable data requests is maintained on the Department’s website: http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/dprb/approved_data_req.htm

Submitter Notes

Reporting Admission from Emergency Department

National Uniform Billing Code (NUBC) discontinued the Point of Origin value of "7" – Admission from Emergency Room on October, 2010. However, SPARCS continued to accept the value of "7" until August 1, 2011 due to major system changes at the time. For discharge dates after and including August 2, 2011, the value of "7" fails.

Instead, effective 7/1/11, SPARCS submitters (as detailed on page 208 of the SPARCS Input Data Dictionary) are required to submit a Condition Code "P7" – Direct Inpatient Admission from Emergency. This code indicates that a patient was directly admitted from this facility's Emergency Room/Department.

We welcome comments and feedback.

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SPARCS Update newsletters are distributed electronically to individuals with Health Commerce System (HCS) data upload access, subscribers to SPARCS-L, and other interested parties upon request.

Updates are available online at:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/info.htm>