HIDI/KHA Data Release Policy for Hospital-Specific Reporting

Summary

In an effort to improve the health care delivery system in Kansas, the Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) and the Hospital Industry Data Institute (HIDI) Data Release Policy creates an open data policy for hospital-specific reporting.

This data policy makes hospital-specific detailed information available to participating hospitals and organizations. The data elements available are those contained in the “limited data set” defined in 42 CFR 164.514(e) of the HIPAA Standards for Privacy of Identifiable Health Information. Participants may only use the data for their own use or the use of their related entities, consistent with this policy, privacy law, regulations and other applicable law.

Data Release Policy Guidelines

The following guidelines shall be followed by all participating organizations. Within these guidelines, “participating” means organizations that provide data and agree in writing to release data; “member” means hospitals in Kansas that are members of HIDI; “member private files” means KHA member data stored at HIDI for member use only.

1. Release of patient identifiers not included in the HIPAA “limited data set” is prohibited. Listings of the specific inpatient data elements that may be released are attached as Exhibit A. Charge information within the inpatient data files will not be made available at the participant or record level, but can be made available at the aggregate level, based on guidelines contained in HIDI’s “Policy for the Release of Aggregate Charge Information.”

For studies on certain diseases that require patient tracking, the Hospital Industry Data Institute (HIDI) can perform the necessary analyses and release only aggregate results.

2. Participating hospitals and organizations may share and receive participant-specific data from the inpatient data files only after the data have been published in KHA’s inpatient discharge reports. Health care systems and all participants within these systems in the membership area must participate in the databases to receive participant-specific information. Each participant (and all facilities within a system) must provide a full year of data before they can receive data and must provide the same level of data as that being requested (e.g., time period, data elements).

3. Information developed from the inpatient participant-specific data files is designed for internal management purposes only. Because this information may be subject to misinterpretation by others, including the public to whom the data might be disclosed directly or indirectly, participants agree not to release participant-specific information obtained from member private files without the written authorization of the owning participant. Participants retain the right as
owners of their own data to restrict its use. However, participant-specific information available in HIDI’s inpatient discharge reports may be disclosed publicly as authorized under HIPAA privacy standards.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any participant may access and use their own data for any purpose consistent with privacy law and regulations and other applicable law.

4. Participant-specific information released publicly by other sources may be released to HIDI-member hospitals at the level and content as that reported in the public release. This release will include certain information from the AHA/KDHE/KHA Annual Licensing Survey, MEDPAR data, Medicare Cost Reports, CMS Public Use Files and AHRQ Reports. There are no restrictions on further release of this public information.

5. Physician-specific aggregated data reports can be made available to participating facilities. Only aggregate comparative data will be made available, and the requesting participant may only receive information on physicians practicing in their facility.

6. Requests for data involving KHA staff resources will be on a fee-for-service basis.

7. Hospitals and organizations able to participate and receive participant-specific data include:

   a. KHA participating member hospitals
Hospital Industry Data Institute

Inpatient Data Elements for Hospital-Specific Release

- Hospital I.D. Number
- Patient State
- Patient ZIP Code
- Patient County Code
- Patient Sex
- Admission Type
- Source of Admission
- Discharge Date
- Days Between Admission and Principal Procedure
- Discharge Disposition
- Length of Stay
- Age
- Payer Code(s) - (Medicare, Medicaid, Commercial, Self Pay, Other)
- Diagnosis Codes
- Procedure Codes
- Ethnicity
- Race
- DRG Code
- MDC Code
- Place of Service
- Observation Hours
- Emergency Department Patient based on HIDI’s Revenue Category (Yes or No)