

FOR THE RECORD

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AMERICAN HOSPITAL DIRECTORY

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Your source for hospital financial information and utilization data

The American Hospital Directory provides online data for over 6,000 hospitals. Our database of information is built from Medicare claims data, cost reports, and other public use files obtained from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

The data also include AHA Annual Survey Data from the [American Hospital Association](#) and contact information from SK&A Information Services.

Our annual subscriptions have served healthcare professionals since 1997. Check out samples of key reports:

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Free Information
Summary hospital data are provided as a public service. Visit as often as you like and look up as many hospitals as you like. No registration is required. [enter >](#)

Professional Services
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AHD In the News

March 25, 2003
The Washington Post
AHD highlighted as a source for comparative information on hospital pricing. [<link>](#)

March 11, 2003
HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT DATA NOW AVAILABLE FREE ON THE INTERNET
Press Release announcing updated and expanded outpatient data. [<more>](#)

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Hospital Outpatient Data Available Free Online

Important new information about a hospital's outpatient services and charges is now available free on the Internet. The American Hospital Directory (AHD[www.ahd.com]) has been providing the operating details of virtually every hospital in the United States as a free online service since September 1997. Online reports describe a hospital's general characteristics, services provided, financial information, volumes, average lengths of stay, average charges, and much more. This free service is

provided to more than 3,000 users each day.

The data on the AHD Web site are gleaned from every acute care hospital that treats Medicare patients. These hospitals are required to submit annual reports detailing their financial operations to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and their Medicare claims are available in public-use files that have been encrypted to protect patient confidentiality. The AHD presents these data in easily accessible, user-friendly reports that are consistent with the CMS data release policies.

The Medicare program introduced

a new Outpatient Prospective Payment System in August 2000. This system groups hospital outpatient services into ambulatory payment classifications (APCs) and pays hospitals a predetermined amount for each APC. The AHD Web site reports a hospital's average charges, payments, and costs for the 20 APCs with the highest revenue for the 12 months ending March 30, 2002. These top 20 APCs typically represent approximately one-half of the hospital's total outpatient revenue. Hospitals will find the information useful in benchmarking their performance and market share among peers. Patients will find the information useful in comparing prices and services among hospitals.

Paul Shoemaker, chairman of the AHD, states, "This new addition to the AHD Web site is timely because people are now taking more responsibility in healthcare decisions. They want to know which hospitals are most efficient, demonstrate the best outcomes, and specialize in the services they seek. Volumes and average charges for individual diagnoses, procedures, and ambulatory patient groupings are also very important at a time when hospitals are learning to manage effectively under a new Prospective Payment System for Medicare outpatient services and when health plans and other payors are seeking to contract with hospitals for outpatient services."

— Source: American Hospital Directory