Metadata for Patient Origin v.1b

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I. Objective

To illustrate changes to inpatient and outpatient markets for all hospitals subject to GMCB Rule 3.000. Market data include patients' hospital service area (HSA) of residence and the primary payer for their care.

II. Data

The Patient Origin file derives its data from VUHDDS Public Use files provided by the Vermont Department of Health. The GMCB extracted data from inpatient and expanded outpatient discharge files for a five-year period (2014-2018). The Patient Origin dashboard visualizes the data in the Patient Origin file. The unit of analysis is the hospital episode, or all care that occurs prior to a hospital discharge.

III. Method

All cases were filtered to exclude newborns and those transferred from other hospitals (Table 1). The GMCB then tabulated the number of episodes for each combination of hospital, patient HSA of residence, primary payer, locale, and year. Combinations with fewer than 10 episodes were nulled per HIPPA restrictions. **Inpatient numbers for Grace Cottage Hospital and Mt. Ascutney Medical Center were nulled**, as the distribution of their small patient volumes could not be generalizably represented after HIPPA restrictions. Finally, combinations without an HSA of residence were also nulled (totaling less than 0.01% of all episodes in most combinations).

Table 1. Variables and Relevant Values

VUHDDS Variable	VUHDDS Variable Description	GMCB Patient Origin Variable	GMCB Patient Origin Values
ppay_hcia	Primary payer for the hospital discharge	payer, broken into separate payer columns	Medicare, Medicaid, and (BCBS & Commercial) AS Commercial
hnum2	Hospital of the hospital discharge	hospital	All hospitals subject to GMCB Budget Review
hsa4	VT Hospital Service Area of the patient	res_hsa	All HSAs and a recoded 'Out of State' HSA
pt_type	Patient type	locale	Inpatient (non-ED) and expanded outpatient (non-ED)
newborn	Patient is a newborn?	[used as a filter]	Not a newborn
asour	Source of the patient	[used as a filter]	Anywhere except another hospital