

Table 1

Hospital-Level Data Sources for Health Information Management Research

Data	Unique Identifier	Linking Variable?	Sample	Procurement	Note
Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS)	UniqueID/HAentityID	Medicare Number (CCN)	5,500 hospitals and health systems in the United States	Proprietary, but the Dorenfest Institute for Health Information offers free data from 1986 onward for students	“UniqueID” does not change across years. “HAentityID” is unique only within each survey year.
American Hospital Association (AHA)	AHAID	None	6,500 nonfederal acute care hospitals in the United States	Proprietary; academic licenses are available. Subsets of the data may be available through research data sources such as the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS).	Links to HCUP through the HCUP AHA linkage file
Hospital Compare	Provider_ID	CCN/Hospital National Provider Identifier (NPI)	4,000 Medicare-certified hospitals	Public	Provider_ID is the CCN.
Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) State Inpatient Databases (SID)	HOSPID	AHAID/Hospital NPI	95% of discharges from community hospitals in the United States (must combine to be at the hospital level)	Available for purchase from the HCUP central distributor	
Provider of Services	PRVDR_NUM	CCN	All Medicare-approved hospitals	Public	PRVDR_NUM is the CCN.