

Atlas of Stroke Hospitalizations



Among Medicare Beneficiaries

2008



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



Suggested Citation

Casper ML, Nwaise IA, Croft JB, Nilasena DS. *Atlas of Stroke Hospitalizations Among Medicare Beneficiaries*. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2008.

Cover Photo

James Gathany, CDC photographer

Inside Photos

The photographs used in this publication are for illustration purposes only. They show a variety of U.S. adults ages 65 years and older who are members of different racial and ethnic groups. They are not intended to depict people who have had a stroke.

For Free Copies

E-mail: ccdinfo@cdc.gov

Write: National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention
and Health Promotion
Stroke Hospitalization Atlas
Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
4770 Buford Highway NE, MS K-47
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717

Online

To view interactive maps of stroke hospitalizations, stroke mortality, and heart disease mortality; print maps; or download sections of the *Atlas of Stroke Hospitalizations Among Medicare Beneficiaries*, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp>.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the following people for their valuable contributions to the publication of the *Atlas*: Diana Toomer, for her outstanding editorial skills and dedication, every step of the way, toward producing a top-quality *Atlas*; Kate Mollenkamp, for her exceptional work on the graphics, formatting, and layout of the *Atlas*, and for her commitment to ensuring that every map is perfect; Mark Conner, for his mastery of graphic arts and his designs for the cover of the *Atlas*; Amanda Crowell, for her impressive editorial and organizational skills in overseeing the production of the *Atlas*; Elizabeth Barnett, Joel Halverson, and Valerie Braham, for their initial vision and expertise in developing the prototype for the series of atlases of heart disease and stroke that have followed; Henry F. McGruder, for her thorough review and description of selected maps in the early stages of the *Atlas*; Ishmael Williams, for sharing his GIS expertise and providing guidance at critical times; Linda Schieb, for her valuable GIS assistance; Kayanna Scott, for her thoroughness in updating Appendix B; Janet Croft, for her expert guidance and continued support and enthusiasm for the *Atlas*; and the following reviewers for their comments on earlier drafts: Carma Ayala and Darwin Labarthe, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, CDC.

In addition, the authors would like to acknowledge the exceptional work performed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) staff in maintaining the CMS data files. Without the rigorous and systematic recording and categorizing of the information from Medicare claims nationwide, the production of the *Atlas of Stroke Hospitalizations Among Medicare Beneficiaries* would not be possible.

Michele L. Casper, PhD, is an epidemiologist and acting team leader of the Small Area Analysis Team within the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Her research focuses primarily on the geographic, racial, and ethnic disparities in heart disease and stroke.

Janet B. Croft, PhD, is an epidemiologist and chief of the Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch within the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention at CDC. Her research focuses primarily on disparities in stroke, hypertension, and heart failure.

David S. Nilasena, MD, MSPH, is the chief medical officer for the Region VI Office of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. He has been actively involved in the agency's quality improvement efforts for heart disease and stroke, leading national work on these topics conducted through the Quality Improvement Organization program for the past 7 years.

Isaac A. Nwaise, MA, is a statistician and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analyst with the Small Area Analysis Team within the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention at CDC. His research interests include health economics; GIS applications; and geographic, racial, and ethnic disparities in heart disease and stroke.

