



H·CUP

HEALTHCARE COST AND UTILIZATION PROJECT

HCUP DATA ELEMENTS

The following table lists the data elements that are used by HCUP to construct the HCUP Intramural databases (utilized for internal research purposes at AHRQ), the HCUP State Inpatient Databases (SID), State Ambulatory Surgery Databases (SASD), State Emergency Department Databases (SEDD), Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS), Kids' Inpatient Database (KID), and Nationwide Emergency Department Sample (NEDS).

Certain indirect identifiers supplied by data organizations are used in the construction of the *HCUP Data Development* files. These elements are used to develop uniform indicators and encrypted measures. They are stored in data development-only files, with access granted by permission of the HCUP Project Officer only under specific, limited circumstances. In these instances, only designated programmers will have access to the files on behalf of AHRQ researchers and their contractors. Information contained in the Data Development file is not included in any of the HCUP databases.