



The Maryland HCUP State Inpatient Databases (SID) for 2006-2009 contain problems with the coding of discharge disposition (DISPuniform). Transfers to other acute care hospitals are misidentified as transfers to other health facilities.

The source-provided patient disposition codes for the following were erroneously mapped to transfer to other health care facility (DISPuniform=5) instead of being mapped to transfer to an acute care hospital (DISPuniform=2):

- From another acute care hospital (DISP_X=40)
- Acute care unit from on-site rehabilitation (DISP_X = 21)
- Acute care unit from chronic care unit (DISP_X = 25).

This error resulted in the 2006 MD SID having an unusually small number of records associated with transfers to an acute care hospital and, in the 2007-2009 MD SID, there were no records marked as transfers to an acute care hospital. The table below indicates the number of affected records.

	MD SID			
	2006	2007	2008	2009
The number of affected records	18,877	18,426	20,071	17,863
% of affected records	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.3
Total discharge count	751,986	759,408	771,209	773,472

If you are using the discharge disposition for data analysis, please recode the records with DISP_X = 21, 25, and 40 to DISPuniform = 2.

We apologize for any inconvenience This may cause your organization. If you have questions, please contact the HCUP Central Distributor (866-556-4287 toll-free or HCUPDistributor@AHRQ.gov).

Sincerely,

The HCUP Central Distributor Team