



The HCUP Central Distributor State Emergency Department Databases (SEDD) for Massachusetts 2009 contains problems with the recode of payer information into PAY1 and PAY2 in the 4th quarter data. Incorrect values of PAY1 and PAY2 were assigned to 122,919 discharges (4.8% of all discharges in the year). In the majority of cases, PAY1 and PAY2 were set to invalid (.A) when they should have identified the payer as Private, Medicare, or Other. The information in the source-supplied fields PAY1_X and PAY2_X is correct. A corrected version of the 2009 MA SEDD is available.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause your organization. We will send you the updated 2009 MA SEDD that replaces the data file that you previously purchased. If you have any questions, please contact the HCUP Central Distributor (866-556-4287 toll-free or HCUPDistributor@AHRQ.gov).

Sincerely,

The HCUP Central Distributor Team