

INGENIX[®]

Top 200 Fast Facts



Ingenix Top 200 Coding Hospitals in the U.S. Report 2008

What is it?

The Top 200 Coding Hospital Report reports the findings of a national study of inpatient coding performance and recognizes the top 200 hospitals in the nation with the most complete and compliant coding practices for the previous year.

Who conducted the study?

The study is presented by Ingenix, a nationally recognized leader in solutions for streamlining coding, regulatory, and reimbursement processes.

When?

The study is published annually in the fall. This year marks the fifth annual publication of the report.

How were the winners chosen?

Ingenix experts analyzed the recently released 2007 Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) file, limiting the study to general acute hospitals with sufficient discharge volumes to support a rigorous analysis. A total of 4,607 hospitals were included in the analysis and were distributed across four peer groups:

- 919 Rural, Non-Teaching
- 1,459 Urban, Non-Teaching
- 1,996 Minor Teaching
- 233 Major Teaching

Within each of these four groups, we identified the 50 hospitals that achieved the best combination of complete and compliant coding. Coding experts identified 13 coding scenarios that, when they occurred, were most frequently associated with coding errors. Measures were established by comparing the frequency with which these scenarios occurred among a hospital's cases. For example, we used cases with DRG 124 (Circulatory Disorders except AMI with Cardiac Catheterization and Complex Diagnosis), and a diagnosis code of 411.1 (Intermediate Coronary Syndrome) as a percent of the total number of DRG 124 claims as one of the measures. In each of the four peer groups, we determined the top 50 coding hospitals by establishing a percent rank for each measure. The hospitals selected had the highest average rank across all measures.

Why do you use peer groups?

Peer groups are used in our analysis to ensure fair comparisons of hospital coding performance. Hospital characteristics such as teaching status and urban/rural location clearly affect the types of services offered by hospitals, as well as the patients they treat. These differences will likewise have an effect on the coding and documentation demands for the hospital. Thus, we evaluate each hospital's coding performance within the context of peer groups, comparing its performance against that of similar hospitals.

Why is this study important?

The health care industry's increasing reliance on code-based prospective payment systems, such as diagnosis-related groups and ambulatory payment classifications, underscores the critical impact of clinical documentation and coding on hospital revenues. This study highlights the increasingly important roles medical records coding and health information management (HIM) are playing in the revenue cycle management process and emphasizes the value of using quantitative HIM measures of coding performance. The top coding hospitals in this study have a clear understanding of how coding fits into revenue cycle management and should be considered models for the industry.

Where can I get a copy of the complete study?

You can receive a copy of the study exclusively at www.ingenix.com/top200.

Who do I contact for more information?

To learn more about the *Top 200 Coding Hospitals Report*, or to speak with a consultant about how to increase your chances of making the list, call or email Ingenix:

(800) 765-6705 | email: solutions@ingenix.com

All media inquiries should be made to:

Joan Schimml

Director of Corporate Communications and Events

(952) 833-6582 | email: joan.schimml@ingenix.com