

411.1 413.9 414.0
445.81 518.81 358
428.0 673.24 770.8
518.81 970.8 434.0
784.3 401.9 250.9
357.2 707.0 250.7
33235 33234 3321
300.02 803.02 850
350.1 733.82 824.8
905.4 733.82 905.4
413.9 414.01 411.1
518.81 358.01 799
573.24 770.84 305
970.8 434.01 342.0
401.9 250.92 250.0
707.0 250.70 443.8
33234 33217 3322
303.02 850.00 803
733.82 824.8 905.4

2005 REPORT:

Top 200 Coding Hospitals in the U.S.



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HSS, a nationally recognized leader in solutions for streamlining coding, regulatory and reimbursement processes, has completed its second annual national study of inpatient coding performance utilizing its **Hospital INSIGHT™** analytical and benchmarking tool. This study, sponsored by Ingenix, HSS' parent company, identifies the top 200 hospitals in the nation with the most complete and compliant coding practices. The study was also sponsored by AHIMA.

Fifty hospitals were identified as “top performers” in each of four peer groups, using newly released 2004 Medicare data as the basis for measuring performance. These four peer groups are:

- Rural, Non-Teaching
- Urban, Non-Teaching
- Minor Teaching (< 100 residents & interns)
- Major Teaching (100+ residents & interns)

The Analysis

HSS analyzed the recently released 2004 Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) file, limiting the study to hospitals with enough discharges to support a rigorous analysis. We also excluded hospitals with higher levels of specialization, measured in terms of the hospital's spread of cases across Major Diagnostic Categories (MDCs); surgical case load; and its long-term care and critical access status. A total of 3,249 hospitals were included in the analysis and were distributed across the groups in the following manner:

- 1,340 Rural, Non-Teaching
- 866 Urban, Non-Teaching
- 804 Minor Teaching
- 239 Major Teaching

Within each of these four groups, we identified the 50 hospitals that achieved the best combination of complete and compliant coding. More specifically, we identified hospitals that achieved higher than expected Medicare Casemix Indexes (CMIs), a good indication of effective documentation and coding practices, without engaging in risky practices as measured by our “OIG Report Card,” one of the standard reports included in Hospital INSIGHT.

The OIG Report Card tabulates the frequency with which “high (upcoding) risk” DRGs occur among a hospital's cases as a fraction of cases in DRGs with the potential to be grouped into the high-risk category. For example, one measure describes the number of times that cases group into septicemia (DRG 416) as a fraction of all cases in either DRG 416 or in DRGs indicating urinary tract infections for patients over the age of 17. For this analysis we computed each hospital's aggregate “OIG Risk Score” across the 15 high-risk DRG scenarios included in the OIG Report Card. The OIG Risk Score is computed as the overall rate of coding into the high risk DRGs. Lower OIG Risk Scores suggest a lower risk of upcoding, and more compliant coding performance.

In each of the four peer groups, we determined the top 50 coding hospitals in two steps. First, hospitals with CMIs above their predicted CMI, and OIG Risk Scores below their predicted OIG Risk Score were identified. Then, from these hospitals, we selected the 50 hospitals that had the largest combined percent variance from their predicted CMI and OIG Risk Score. The following tables show these results and list the Top 200 Coding Hospitals, 50 in each of the hospital peer groups.

TOP MAJOR TEACHING CODING HOSPITALS

Rank	Medicare Provider Number	Hospital Name	State	CMI	OIG Risk Score	% Above Expected CMI	% Below Expected OIG Risk Score
1	330221	WYCKOFF HEIGHTS HOSPITAL	NY	1.4258	22.7%	9%	16%
2	330395	ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL HOSPITAL	NY	1.3999	25.6%	6%	19%
3	050696	USC UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	CA	2.0736	19.7%	7%	17%
4	360152	DOCTORS HOSPITAL OHIO HEALTH	OH	1.5264	19.2%	6%	12%
5	420004	MEDICAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	SC	1.9989	19.3%	4%	16%
6	170040	UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL	KS	1.9183	20.4%	4%	13%
7	010087	UNIV OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL CENTER	AL	1.8925	23.4%	5%	10%
8	310002	NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER	NJ	1.8430	22.7%	4%	11%
9	330027	NASSAU UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER	NY	1.4649	24.9%	8%	5%
10	100034	MOUNT SINAI MEDICAL CENTER	FL	1.8259	21.4%	7%	5%
11	500008	UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON MEDICAL CTR	WA	1.9315	20.4%	4%	7%
12	100128	TAMPA GENERAL HOSPITAL	FL	2.1457	24.8%	6%	5%
13	450024	R E THOMASON GENERAL HOSPITAL	TX	1.3627	20.8%	3%	10%
14	330234	WESTCHESTER COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER	NY	2.2895	23.9%	6%	5%
15	330013	ALBANY MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL	NY	2.1008	22.2%	2%	12%
16	330233	BROOKDALE HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER	NY	1.4520	25.0%	5%	5%
17	330055	THE NY HOSPITAL MEDICAL CTR OF QUEENS	NY	1.6505	27.3%	2%	10%
18	450193	ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL HOSPITAL	TX	2.0466	22.7%	6%	3%
19	510001	WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	WV	1.9251	23.8%	2%	11%
20	110010	EMORY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	GA	2.1362	24.4%	5%	4%
21	010033	UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA HOSPITAL	AL	2.0430	21.9%	2%	7%
22	330193	FLUSHING HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER	NY	1.2708	24.3%	3%	5%
23	330194	MAIMONIDES MEDICAL CENTER	NY	1.8165	26.0%	6%	2%
24	440104	ERLANGER MEDICAL CENTER	TN	1.7872	21.6%	1%	13%
25	510022	CHARLESTON AREA MED CENTER	WV	1.8436	21.5%	1%	8%
26	490009	UNIVERSITY OF VA HOSPITAL	VA	1.9332	23.9%	3%	4%
27	390290	HAHNEMANN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	PA	1.9358	20.9%	1%	11%
28	300003	MARY HITCHCOCK MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	NH	2.0854	24.9%	2%	4%
29	310001	HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL	NJ	1.7901	22.3%	2%	3%
30	360085	OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	OH	2.0927	24.5%	6%	1%
31	390050	ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL	PA	2.0677	25.4%	3%	2%
32	330028	ST. VINCENT'S MEDICAL CENTER	NY	1.4264	23.0%	6%	1%
33	310119	UMDNJ UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	NJ	1.8308	25.9%	2%	3%
34	310019	ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL	NJ	1.6365	24.3%	1%	8%
35	360048	MEDICAL COLLEGE OF OHIO AT TOLEDO	OH	1.7755	23.4%	1%	6%
36	050441	STANFORD HOSPITAL	CA	1.9816	24.0%	2%	3%
37	450358	THE METHODIST HOSPITAL	TX	2.0214	25.0%	5%	1%
38	280030	ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL	NE	1.9568	23.3%	3%	2%
39	450686	UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER	TX	1.6364	22.8%	3%	1%
40	280013	THE NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER	NE	1.8098	22.7%	1%	3%
41	450039	JPS HEALTH NETWORK	TX	1.3933	20.4%	1%	4%
42	330106	NORTH SHORE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	NY	1.7540	23.7%	2%	1%
43	050138	KAISER FOUNDATION HOSPITAL	CA	1.9696	24.4%	14%	0%
44	330241	SUNY UPSTATE MEDICAL CENTER	NY	1.8664	25.9%	2%	1%
45	370093	OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER	OK	1.6501	20.2%	0%	14%
46	180067	UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY HOSPITAL	KY	1.9697	25.8%	5%	0%
47	310038	ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON UNIV HOSPITAL	NJ	1.9962	25.9%	3%	1%
48	140124	COOK COUNTY HOSPITAL	IL	1.2524	14.5%	0%	18%
49	310076	ST. BARNABAS MEDICAL CENTER	NJ	1.6158	22.8%	2%	0%
50	170122	VIA CHRISTI REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	KS	1.6274	25.1%	1%	1%
All Major Teaching Hospitals - Mean Value				1.6962	24.8%		

TOP MINOR TEACHING CODING HOSPITALS

Rank	Medicare Provider Number	Hospital Name	State	CMI	OIG Risk Score	% Above Expected CMI	% Below Expected OIG Risk Score
1	410010	WOMEN AND INFANTS HOSPITAL OF R.I.	RI	1.1691	9.2%	20%	22%
2	050096	DOCTORS HOSPITAL OF WEST COVINA, INC.	CA	1.3470	12.7%	11%	23%
3	400015	SAN JUAN MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL	PR	1.3844	19.2%	14%	16%
4	050477	MIDWAY HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER	CA	1.5014	20.7%	7%	24%
5	050594	WESTERN MEDICAL CENTER — ANAHEIM	CA	2.0324	21.2%	12%	14%
6	050248	NATIVIDAD MEDICAL CENTER	CA	1.0433	17.2%	8%	16%
7	100114	PARKWAY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	FL	1.3750	20.8%	5%	23%
8	150014	WINONA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	IN	1.3360	18.5%	12%	9%
9	460003	SALT LAKE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	UT	1.5262	21.8%	12%	9%
10	360062	OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL EAST	OH	1.5516	20.1%	7%	13%
11	330201	KINGSBROOK JEWISH MEDICAL CENTER	NY	1.7225	28.8%	13%	6%
12	400112	CAROLINA AREA HOSPITAL	PR	1.2181	18.4%	5%	17%
13	050584	DOCTORS' HOSPITAL MED CTR OF MONTCLAIR	CA	1.3201	26.3%	8%	10%
14	400103	MAYAGUEZ MEDICAL CENTER	PR	1.7291	20.6%	3%	25%
15	050725	CITY OF ANGELS MEDICAL CENTER	CA	1.0028	15.3%	3%	25%
16	100032	BAYFRONT MEDICAL CENTER INC	FL	1.7175	19.9%	5%	16%
17	010064	CARRAWAY METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER	AL	1.7056	20.2%	6%	13%
18	140103	ST. BERNARD HOSPITAL	IL	1.3205	23.2%	5%	14%
19	330314	BRUNSWICK HOSPITAL	NY	1.2489	20.9%	3%	19%
20	140300	PROVIDENT HOSPITAL OF CHICAGO	IL	1.2365	18.7%	9%	7%
21	510024	MONONGALIA COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL	WV	1.7303	19.3%	5%	13%
22	140008	GOTTLIEB MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	IL	1.5153	19.8%	7%	9%
23	510068	JEFFERSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	WV	1.1254	18.7%	5%	12%
24	290005	LAKE MEAD HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER	NV	1.3888	22.2%	10%	5%
25	050592	BREA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	CA	1.1825	20.5%	8%	7%
26	050076	KAISER FOUNDATION HOSPITAL	CA	2.0323	24.7%	14%	4%
27	050579	CENTURY CITY HOSPITAL	CA	1.4469	17.9%	5%	11%
28	030019	TEMPE ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL	AZ	1.3627	22.7%	6%	9%
29	140083	LORETTO HOSPITAL	IL	1.0707	19.2%	3%	16%
30	440082	ST. THOMAS HOSPITAL	TN	2.1869	23.6%	7%	7%
31	280003	BRYANLGH MEDICAL CENTER	NE	1.8631	20.5%	5%	10%
32	050175	WHITTIER HOSPITAL	CA	1.3253	25.3%	6%	7%
33	310074	JERSEY CITY MEDICAL CENTER	NJ	1.3409	22.7%	12%	4%
34	370091	ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL, INC	OK	1.7113	21.5%	4%	12%
35	450011	ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER	TX	1.7059	22.4%	8%	5%
36	380007	LEGACY EMANUEL HOSPITAL & HEALTH CTR	OR	1.9030	20.7%	3%	12%
37	050065	WESTERN MEDICAL CENTER	CA	1.7825	23.7%	3%	12%
38	130028	PORTNEUF MEDICAL CENTER	ID	1.3730	18.1%	3%	14%
39	330246	ST. CHARLES HOSPITAL	NY	1.3457	17.9%	2%	15%
40	230077	ST. MARY'S MEDICAL CENTER	MI	1.9569	22.9%	4%	9%
41	460004	MCKAY-DEE HOSPITAL CENTER	UT	1.6725	21.4%	5%	7%
42	360192	UNIV HOSP HLTH SYSTEM GEAUGA REG HOSP	OH	1.3343	23.0%	4%	9%
43	100039	BROWARD GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER	FL	1.4163	19.8%	3%	9%
44	260211	THE CANCER INSTITUTE	MO	1.6026	26.6%	5%	6%
45	440048	BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	TN	1.8502	22.8%	3%	8%
46	440183	ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL	TN	1.5553	23.0%	4%	6%
47	050169	PRESBYTERIAN INTERCOMMUNITY HOSPITAL	CA	1.4426	23.0%	3%	10%
48	360074	FLOWER HOSPITAL	OH	1.2659	19.2%	4%	6%
49	100015	SUN COAST HOSPITAL	FL	1.3201	20.2%	4%	6%
50	030030	PHOENIX BAPTIST HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CTR	AZ	1.6773	21.6%	4%	6%
All Minor Teaching Hospitals - Mean Value				1.4767	23.6%		

TOP URBAN, NON-TEACHING CODING HOSPITALS

Rank	Medicare Provider Number	Hospital Name	State	CMI	OIG Risk Score	% Above Expected CMI	% Below Expected OIG Risk Score
1	110193	NEWNAN HOSPITAL	GA	1.4092	7.4%	11%	54%
2	230135	COTTAGE HOSPITAL	MI	1.1167	8.4%	11%	48%
3	140197	METHODIST HOSPITAL OF CHICAGO	IL	1.3559	18.6%	14%	18%
4	450877	PHYSICIANS HOSPITAL	TX	1.4139	12.2%	5%	44%
5	450865	SETON SOUTHWEST HEALTHCARE CENTER	TX	1.0980	7.5%	4%	51%
6	150157	ST. VINCENT CARMEL HOSPITAL, INC.	IN	1.6106	17.7%	9%	22%
7	100237	NORTH RIDGE MEDICAL CENTER	FL	1.9690	18.8%	8%	24%
8	400115	HOSPITAL WILMA N VAZQUEZ	PR	1.1333	15.2%	7%	28%
9	030106	PHOENIX MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	AZ	1.5559	18.5%	8%	22%
10	240006	OLMSTED MEDICAL CENTER	MN	1.0555	7.7%	7%	27%
11	400017	SAN CARLOS GENERAL HOSPITAL	PR	1.2113	16.8%	8%	21%
12	450867	SETON NORTHWEST HOSPITAL	TX	1.2687	15.9%	7%	24%
13	460005	OGDEN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	UT	1.4461	19.8%	15%	10%
14	520010	RIVER FALLS AREA HOSPITAL	WI	1.1222	14.9%	5%	30%
15	050615	GREATER EL MONTE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	CA	1.3241	21.9%	8%	19%
16	060027	BOULDER COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	CO	1.5934	17.2%	7%	20%
17	050054	SAN GORGONIO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	CA	1.1975	15.8%	6%	23%
18	140068	ROSELAND COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	IL	1.2380	20.8%	5%	26%
19	450123	DOCTORS HOSPITAL	TX	1.1188	14.3%	4%	34%
20	310118	MEADOWLANDS HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER	NJ	1.2914	16.8%	7%	16%
21	360153	BELMONT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	OH	0.9706	12.7%	4%	29%
22	110042	WELLSTAR PAULDING HOSPITAL	GA	1.1059	16.0%	5%	22%
23	180025	FLAGET MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	KY	1.0659	14.1%	5%	22%
24	440159	DELTA MEDICAL CENTER	TN	1.4424	24.9%	6%	18%
25	260053	FREEMAN NEOSHO HOSPITAL	MO	1.0498	16.3%	5%	21%
26	450840	PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL OF ALLEN	TX	1.0125	17.1%	6%	18%
27	290021	VALLEY HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER	NV	1.7583	22.8%	10%	10%
28	370190	SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	OK	1.5571	23.8%	13%	7%
29	370176	ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL - BROKEN ARROW	OK	1.1135	14.7%	5%	17%
30	050531	BELLFLOWER MEDICAL CENTER	CA	1.1052	16.3%	5%	18%
31	190203	DOCTORS HOSPITAL OF JEFFERSON	LA	1.5048	15.5%	4%	20%
32	050226	ANAHEIM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	CA	1.6078	19.1%	7%	12%
33	290046	SPRING VALLEY HOSPITAL	NV	1.3473	18.8%	7%	13%
34	330249	COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	NY	1.2120	13.7%	3%	27%
35	400006	DOCTORS HOSPITAL	PR	1.1831	21.3%	5%	17%
36	260057	CAMERON REGIONAL MEDICAL	MO	1.0419	16.5%	5%	15%
37	050295	MERCY HOSPITAL	CA	1.5323	21.5%	7%	11%
38	320033	LOS ALAMOS MEDICAL CENTER	NM	1.1604	18.2%	7%	12%
39	140292	GLENOAKS MEDICAL CENTER, INC.	IL	1.1586	21.7%	7%	11%
40	450031	THE MEDICAL CENTER OF MESQUITE	TX	1.4879	18.3%	5%	16%
41	450688	MESQUITE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	TX	1.2074	16.9%	4%	20%
42	420038	LAURENS COUNTY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM	SC	1.2647	18.7%	4%	17%
43	460051	JORDAN VALLEY HOSPITAL	UT	1.1727	15.7%	6%	12%
44	240014	NORTHFIELD CITY HOSPITAL	MN	1.0236	14.0%	3%	29%
45	200007	BRIDGTON HOSPITAL	ME	1.0816	19.9%	7%	10%
46	150060	WEST CENTRAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	IN	1.0919	17.0%	5%	15%
47	230270	OAKWOOD HERITAGE HOSPITAL	MI	1.2718	23.4%	4%	18%
48	050589	PLACENTIA LINDA HOSPITAL	CA	1.2720	18.3%	3%	21%
49	450028	VALLEY BAPTIST MEDICAL CTR-BROWNSVILLE	TX	1.6017	21.0%	7%	9%
50	400005	FONT MARTELLO HOSPITAL	PR	1.1245	17.1%	9%	8%
All Urban Non-Teaching Hospitals - Mean Value				1.3301	22.3%		

TOP RURAL, NON-TEACHING CODING HOSPITALS

Rank	Medicare Provider Number	Hospital Name	State	CMI	OIG Risk Score	% Above Expected CMI	% Below Expected OIG Risk Score
1	110194	DONALSONVILLE HOSPITAL, INC.	GA	0.9412	9.9%	18%	16%
2	160124	LAKES REGIONAL HEALTHCARE	IA	1.1241	11.2%	8%	32%
3	110086	WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL MED CTR	GA	1.4255	20.8%	14%	15%
4	530009	MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF CARBON COUNTY	WY	0.9748	11.1%	9%	22%
5	190010	LALLIE KEMP REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	LA	1.1454	14.9%	15%	12%
6	530016	WEST PARK HOSPITAL	WY	1.3302	14.8%	6%	29%
7	150078	JASPER COUNTY HOSPITAL	IN	0.9495	12.8%	6%	26%
8	050251	LASSEN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	CA	1.0046	16.2%	10%	16%
9	300015	MEMORIAL HOSPITAL THE	NH	1.0999	14.2%	6%	22%
10	060036	ARKANSAS VALLEY REGIONAL MED CENTER	CO	1.1234	16.6%	5%	23%
11	280108	PHELPS MEMORIAL HEALTH CENTER	NE	1.0431	16.6%	8%	14%
12	190164	BYRD REGIONAL HOSPITAL	LA	1.1754	15.9%	7%	14%
13	170094	COFFEY COUNTY HOSPITAL	KS	1.0008	17.0%	5%	20%
14	140234	ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	IL	1.0500	12.1%	4%	26%
15	320011	ESPANOLA HOSPITAL	NM	1.1809	18.2%	6%	15%
16	520042	REEDSBURG AREA MED CENTER	WI	1.0929	16.0%	8%	11%
17	320061	GALLUP INDIAN MEDICAL CENTER	NM	1.0526	11.8%	3%	31%
18	230035	UNITED MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	MI	1.3120	25.4%	8%	11%
19	360128	WYANDOT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	OH	1.0881	13.7%	3%	27%
20	450438	COLORADO FAYETTE MEDICAL CENTER	TX	1.1499	23.2%	4%	20%
21	200066	MAYO REGIONAL HOSPITAL	ME	1.2469	17.0%	5%	16%
22	450144	PERMIAN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	TX	1.1820	15.4%	3%	27%
23	160039	CASS COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	IA	0.9337	12.5%	3%	23%
24	020027	MT. EDGECUMBE HOSPITAL	AK	0.9184	9.3%	2%	33%
25	200028	SEBASTICOOK VALLEY HOSPITAL	ME	1.0457	20.2%	8%	8%
26	240007	WEINER MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER	MN	1.1567	16.4%	5%	14%
27	230082	MARLETTE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	MI	1.0314	16.2%	4%	14%
28	140165	SALEM TOWNSHIP HOSPITAL	IL	1.0693	18.9%	3%	19%
29	450369	CHILDRESS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	TX	1.0162	14.1%	3%	17%
30	170070	MORRIS COUNTY HOSPITAL	KS	1.0802	21.8%	11%	5%
31	330175	CORTLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	NY	1.1316	14.6%	2%	23%
32	360002	SAMARITAN REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM	OH	1.2123	17.5%	5%	10%
33	140045	FAYETTE COUNTY HOSPITAL	IL	1.0450	17.6%	4%	13%
34	440130	BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL UNION CITY	TN	1.1660	19.0%	4%	12%
35	050392	TRINITY GENERAL HOSPITAL	CA	1.0359	16.4%	3%	18%
36	240087	STEVENS COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	MN	1.0324	15.6%	2%	24%
37	370153	ELKVIEW GENERAL HOSPITAL	OK	1.0543	17.9%	3%	17%
38	510026	GRANT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	WV	1.0188	14.5%	2%	18%
39	320013	HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL	NM	1.1534	20.6%	4%	10%
40	330062	SCHUYLER HOSPITAL	NY	1.2031	18.5%	11%	4%
41	110101	MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF ADEL, INC.	GA	1.0828	19.6%	2%	18%
42	380081	MOUNTAIN VIEW HOSPITAL	OR	1.1378	22.9%	4%	9%
43	160112	SPENCER MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL	IA	1.2599	16.4%	3%	14%
44	150013	SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	IN	0.9904	18.5%	5%	7%
45	140011	HERRIN HOSPITAL	IL	1.1598	18.5%	3%	12%
46	240166	FAIRMONT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	MN	1.1167	17.3%	3%	14%
47	270011	CENTRAL MONTANA MEDICAL CENTER	MT	0.9737	16.9%	8%	4%
48	320038	REHOBOTH MCKINLEY CHRISTIAN HLTH SVCS	NM	1.2481	18.7%	7%	5%
49	260142	JOHN FITZGIBBON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	MO	1.0554	15.2%	5%	6%
50	020014	SOUTH PENINSULA HOSPITAL	AK	1.0334	13.8%	3%	10%
All Rural Non-Teaching Hospitals - Mean Value				1.1760	21.7%		

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *What specific hospital exclusions did you make?*

A: We limited the analysis to hospitals with at least 100 cases in the MedPAR file, and for which we had the information needed to determine its peer group. In addition, we excluded hospitals that appeared to be atypically specialized. To be included, hospitals needed to have:

- At least 13 Major Diagnostic Categories (MDCs) represented in the MedPAR file;
- Less than 50 percent of cases coming from any one MDC; and
- A surgical case load of less than 75 percent and greater than 5 percent of cases.

Finally, we excluded Long-Term Care and Critical Access hospitals.

Q: *Why do you use peer groups?*

A: Peer groups are used in our analysis for 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.

Q: *What is different about this year's analysis as compared to last year's?*

A: We have made some significant refinements this year to the analysis methods. The major enhancement is a more rigorous recognition of a hospital's scope of services in making the coding comparisons. Although the peer-group approach addresses some of the hospital differences, we employed a more complex statistical modeling approach to measure and adjust for differing service levels. This approach, coupled with the exclusion of hospitals whose service offerings were heavily specialized (see above), provides an improved method of ranking hospitals.

Thus, instead of ranking hospitals based on performance against peer-group *median* values for CMI and OIG Risk Score, this year we ranked a hospital's performance based on performance against its own expected CMI and OIG Risk Score. And each hospital's expected performance adjusts for its service mix measured by the distribution of cases across MDCs, and the percent of cases in surgical Diagnosis-Related Groups (DRGs).

The regression approach also provided a more rigorous method of measuring and adjusting for the underlying correlation between CMI and OIG Risk Score, and adjusting for other hospital characteristics. Thus, the peer-group approach — with this year's added hospital exclusion rules and enhanced analysis methods — yields, in our opinion, a very sophisticated and fair comparison of hospital coding performance.

Q: *How important are the individual hospital rankings published in this year's report?*

A: Clearly, the hospitals included in the Top Coding groups demonstrate strong coding performance in terms of revenue and compliance. However, many factors will affect a hospital's individual ranking, and many of those factors are outside the control of the hospital. This study was designed to identify groups of high performers, and not for comparing one hospital against another.

Q: *How do I get on the "Top Coding" hospital list?*

A: By design, the list of Top Coding hospitals includes hospitals that achieve the best combination of complete and compliant coding: those achieving higher than expected CMIs while maintaining lower than expected OIG Risk Scores. We believe that this "best combination" reflects more accurate and complete coding, which in turn means that a hospital is getting the reimbursement it deserves — maximum reimbursement that is compliant with coding and payment rules.

Thus, the "simple" answer is that hospitals can get on the Top Coding list by increasing their CMIs, but doing it in a compliant fashion: by improving the accuracy and completeness of their coding and documentation. The real challenge, however, is identifying and targeting areas that need improvement — areas where incomplete coding may be resulting in lost revenue, or areas where overly aggressive coding may place the hospital at a compliance risk. To address this challenge, hospitals typically develop operational measures and audit tools for improvement, or hire consultants to do it for them.

Using performance profiling tools such as Hospital INSIGHT can provide an effective means of addressing this challenge. Profiling coding and documentation performance allows hospitals to go beyond narrow operational metrics and evaluate themselves in an industry context, identifying areas where the hospital appears to be performing outside the norm. By establishing a routine and replicable evaluation process, profiling can be used as a basis for evaluating not only current performance, but also future changes in performance.

Ideally then, HIM management can become more of a data-driven process. Typical steps in this process include:

- Establishing quantitative baseline performance levels for the hospital overall, as well as for specific clinical areas (e.g., CC coding rates for selected DRGs);
- Conducting qualitative documentation, coding, and billing audits to identify deficiencies and vulnerabilities;
- Identifying and implementing remedial strategies;
- Assessing progress in quantitative terms; and
- Calculating financial implications of deficiencies and improvements.

These steps can then be repeated, and expanded as necessary, to provide an effective ongoing monitoring and improvement program. This performance profiling approach focuses efforts to improve coding, compliance, and reimbursement management in areas where the hospital stands out as a compliance risk, or where incomplete billing may be undermining reimbursement.

Q: *If I did not make the “Top Coding” hospital list, how can I get more information about how my hospital performed?*

A: To get information on your hospital’s coding performance from this study (including actual and expected CMIs and OIG Risk Scores), as well as information on Hospital INSIGHT, please contact Kurt Price at 360.357.6901, or at kpric@hss-info.com.

About HSS

HSS, an Ingenix company, develops solutions that streamline the coding, regulatory and reimbursement processes at provider and payer organizations. HSS’ experience with providers and payers enables it to provide the tools and methodologies for organizations to evaluate financial and operational performance, target areas for performance improvement and balance risk-assumption with profit opportunities. These solutions combine technology with HSS’ nationally recognized health care expertise. HSS solutions are used by more than 900 hospitals and 160 managed-care organizations. They are also embedded in health information management applications offered by more than 25 of the industry’s major software vendors. For more information, visit www.hssweb.com.

About Ingenix

Ingenix develops technology and applies data in innovative ways to help improve the affordability, quality, usability, and accessibility of health care. We enhance the delivery and operations of business partners throughout the health care industry: payers, providers, employers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, hospitals, and more. For additional information about Ingenix and its products and services, call 800-INGENIX (800-464-3649) or visit www.ingenix.com. Ingenix is one of the businesses of UnitedHealth Group (NYSE: UNH), a diversified health and well-being company dedicated to making health care work better.

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