

## Preface

This document contains a list of the topic areas of the data items available in the 2007 NHHCS agency, patient, and medications public-use files.

NHHCS is conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). NHHCS, which was first conducted in 1992, was inaugurated to gather, analyze, and disseminate information about long-term care provided by U.S. home health agencies and hospices, including their services, staffs, and patients. Many individuals, including elderly, post-acute, rehabilitative, and chronically ill persons access care through home health and hospice agencies.

This document is organized with survey content in mind, listing the topic areas by agency type (i.e., home health, hospice, and mixed) and by patient type (i.e., current home health patients and hospice discharges). The content grids show which topic areas were covered for which agency type and for which patient type. This list is not exhaustive, but provides the topics in which data users may be most interested. The first content grid presents topics from the NHHCS Agency module. The second grid presents survey topics covered in the Patient Health module. The final grid provides topics from the Patient Charges and Payments module.

In the grids, an "X" denotes that a question related to that topic was asked for the agency type or about the patient type. The specific wording of items can be found in the 2007 NHHCS survey instruments and variable names are in the documentation; both are available on the NHHCS home web page at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhhcs.htm>. There, you will also find technical notes about the survey.

2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey: Topics Covered

Agency Topics	Agency Type		
	Home health only	Hospice only	Mixed agency
Chain affiliation	X	X	X
Agency type	X	X	X
Number of admissions in 2006	X	X	X
Number of discharges in 2006	X	X	X
Number of patients currently served by agency	X	X	X
Number of years in operation	X	X	X
Agency ownership	X	X	X
Agency patient referral sources	X	X	X
Agency's hospice service mix		X	X
Agency affiliation	X	X	X
Formal contracts with outside agencies or organizations	X	X	X
Agency accreditation	X	X	X
Cultural training for staff and communication practices	X	X	X
Medical and skilled nursing services provided	X	X	X

2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey: Topics Covered

Agency Topics	Agency Type		
	Home health only	Hospice only	Mixed agency
Complementary and alternative therapies used by agency	X	X	X
Equipment, therapy, and pharmacy services provided	X	X	X
Personal, psychosocial, and counseling services provided	X	X	X
Special patient services	X	X	X
Unable to admit patients because of lack of staff or lack of clinical capabilities	X	X	X
Advance directives policy, storage, implementation, and restrictions	X	X	X
Employees' influenza vaccinations	X	X	X
<b>Staffing Questionnaire</b>			
Agency director's highest degree, certifications, tenure	X	X	X
Director of nursing's highest degree, certifications, tenure	X	X	X
RNs' highest degrees and certifications	X	X	X
Advance practice nurses on staff	X	X	X
RNs, LPNs/LVNs, Aides: current workers, vacancies, new hires, terminations, contract workers, orientation for new hires, tenure, starting wages	X	X	X
Volunteer and other agency workers	X	X	X

2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey: Topics Covered

Agency Topics	Agency Type		
	Home health only	Hospice only	Mixed agency
Staff retention and recruitment strategies	X	X	X
Employee benefits	X	X	X
Information technology capabilities	X	X	X
Preparedness for influenza pandemic	X	X	X
Patient care revenue mix	X	X	X

2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey: Topics Covered

Patient Health Topics	Patient Type	
	Current home health patients	Hospice discharges
Number of days of current episode of care from admission to agency interview	X	
Readmission status	X	X
Number of days hospice care received		X
Reason for and destination after discharge		X
Patient demographics (gender, age, ethnicity, race, marital status)	X	X
Veteran status	X	X
Medicare/Medicaid status	X	X
Advance directives	X	X
Whether and where patient received care immediately before admission	X	X
Patient's current living arrangements	X	
Patient's living arrangements before hospice care and on last day of care		X
Primary caregiver and relationship to patient/discharge	X	X
Diagnoses	X	X
Surgical, diagnostic, or therapeutic procedures and treatments related to admission	X	

2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey: Topics Covered

Patient Health Topics	Patient Type	
	Current home health patients	Hospice discharges
Pressure ulcers	X	X
Assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs)	X	X
Medication assistance	X	X
Mental status	X	X
Use of assistive aids and special devices	X	
Use of and agency assistance with medical devices	X	X
Bladder and bowel control and devices	X	X
Pain assessment, level, and management	X	X
Medical, counseling/psychosocial, and other services received	X	X
Services received by patient's family or friends	X	X
Number and types of medical and allied health care visits received	X	X
Emergency care received and reasons for care	X	X
Overnight hospital stay	X	
Medications taken	X	X

2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey: Topics Covered

Patient Health Topics	Patient Type	
	Current home health patients	Hospice discharges
Symptoms prior to hospice discharge		X
Formal care or treatments received while in hospice		X
Level of hospice care received at discharge		X
Life expectancy	X	
Symptoms and formal care or treatment received at last visit	X	

2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey: Topics Covered

Charges and Payments Topics	Patient Type	
	Current home health patients	Hospice discharges
Primary source of payment	x	x
Other payment sources	x	x
Total amount of charges billed for last complete billing period	x	x
Total amount of charges billed for 12 month-period before hospice discharge		x
Total amount paid by primary payment source	x	x