

# SPARCS Update

New York State Department of Health

February 2014

Office of Quality and Patient Safety

## General Announcements

### *ICD-10 Implementation*

The reference file to be used to flag ICD-10 indicators such as gender, age, HIV/AIDS, abortion, and others has been drafted for review during February 2014 by a recently formed workgroup of external partners.

### *Verification of Contact Information*

Please continue to e-mail SPARCS Operations with any changes to contact or vendor information.

## Compliance and Quality Improvement

### *SPARCS Compliance*

SPARCS data is used for multiple purposes, including research, market analysis, planning and policy. The quality and timeliness in reporting SPARCS data is very important. SPARCS regulations require that healthcare facilities submit at least 95 percent of SPARCS data for all inpatient discharges and outpatient visits within 60 days from the end of the month of a patient's discharge or visit. For example, 95 percent of visits or discharges occurring in November 2013 are to be submitted by January 31, 2014.

SPARCS coordinators and backups for facilities that have not submitted SPARCS data for November 2013 (based on the monthly update after the first Tuesday in February) recently received e-mails to that effect. This applies to all SPARCS data: inpatient, ambulatory surgery, emergency department, and outpatient services. This will be an ongoing monthly process. Facilities that are missing data for months prior to November 2013 will be contacted by telephone.

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The following monthly reports on the Department’s public website can further assist facilities:

Compliance reports: [http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/reports/compliance/pfi\\_facilities.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/reports/compliance/pfi_facilities.htm)

Submission audit reports: <http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/reports/audit.htm>

### *SPARCS Present on Admission Reporting*

SPARCS Operations released a report this month on an assessment of Present on Admission (POA) reporting on inpatient SPARCS discharges for the time period 2009 through 2012. Report findings used 3M™ developed programming to assess the reporting and validity of POA coding reported to SPARCS by Article 28 hospital facilities. The report was e-mailed to SPARCS coordinators and can be obtained via the Department’s website: [http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/data\\_distribution.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/data_distribution.htm)

Facilities indicated in the report as being non-compliant for multiple years are being contacted individually to submit data quality improvement action plans.

### *Facility Race and Ethnicity Concordance Reports*

The reports have been released to assist facilities in making data improvements:

[http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/data\\_distribution.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/data_distribution.htm)

## **Data Collection, Storage, and Release**

### *SPARCS Data Release: Limited and Identifiable*

All requests for limited and identifiable data should be submitted to [dprb@health.state.ny.us](mailto:dprb@health.state.ny.us).

The following organizations received SPARCS data files in January 2014:

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Data File Type</b>	<b>Years Received</b>
CBIZ KA Consulting Services, LLC	Limited	2012-2013
Dutchess County Department of Health	Limited	2000-2013
Federal Trade Commission	Limited	2012
Greater New York Hospital Association	Identifiable	2012-2013
HANYS Services Inc.	Identifiable	2012-2013
Health Grades, Inc.	Identifiable	2012
KPMG LLP	Limited	2003-2013
New Solutions, Inc.	Identifiable, Limited	2012
New York State Office of Mental Health	Identifiable	2011-2012
North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System	Identifiable	2012-2013
SUNY School of Public Health	Limited	2009-2011
SUNY Stony Brook University Medical Center	Limited	1997-2013
SUNY Upstate Medical University	Limited	1996-2012
TREO Solutions	Identifiable	2012-2013
Truven Health Analytics	Identifiable	2012-2013
University of Pennsylvania	Identifiable	2013
University of Rochester Medical Center	Identifiable	2012

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Data File Type</b>	<b>Years Received</b>
Vermont Hospital Association and Health Systems	Limited	2012

The complete list of approved identifiable data requests is maintained on the Department’s website:  
[http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/dprb/approved\\_data\\_req.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/dprb/approved_data_req.htm)

## **Training and Presentations**

### *Implementation of ICD-10 Codes*

On February 11, HANYS and Greater New York Hospital Association hosted a web conference at which SPARCS Operations Staff, OHIP, and 3M discussed New York State’s implementation of ICD-10 ([http://www.hanys.org/events/?event\\_id=859](http://www.hanys.org/events/?event_id=859)). A recording of the web conference will be made available on the HANYS website. The highlights include:

- In the process of developing submission edits based on ICD-10 codes.
- Currently receiving feedback from an external review committee on the edits.
- The edits will be programmed in the submission process programs.
- In April 2014, facilities will be able to send test submission with ICD-10 codes.
- As of October 1, 2014, all SPARCS submissions with a discharge date on or after October 1, 2014 will be required to have ICD-10 codes.

### *SPARCS 101 Statewide Online Training through WebEx*

The SPARCS 101 training materials and a comprehensive SPARCS Operations Guide are currently being updated and redesigned. We will be announcing availability of the updated materials in the near future.

### *NYS Toolkit to Reduce Healthcare Disparities*

The "New York State Toolkit to Reduce Healthcare Disparities: Improving Race and Ethnicity Data" is now available at: <http://improvepatientdatanys.org>. The “Toolkit” tab includes links to the full toolkit and to sections of interest to: physician leadership, hospital executives, quality improvement advisers, and medical staff; directors or supervisors of hospital admissions, hospital registration and emergency room registration staff; and SPARCS coordinators and hospital IT staff.

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**We welcome comments and feedback.**

**SPARCS Operations**

New York State Department of Health  
Office of Quality and Patient Safety  
Bureau of Health Informatics  
Empire State Plaza  
Corning Tower, Room 878  
Albany, New York 12237

Phone: (518) 473-8144

Fax: (518) 486-3518

Information: [sparcs@health.state.ny.us](mailto:sparcs@health.state.ny.us)

Data Access: [dprb@health.state.ny.us](mailto:dprb@health.state.ny.us)

**SPARCS Update** newsletters are distributed electronically to individuals who have Health Commerce System (HCS) data upload access, subscribers to SPARCS-L, and other interested parties upon request. Updates are also available online at: <http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/sparcs/info.htm>