

Supplemental Content

Table A. Distribution of the hospital lengths of stay (days)

ICD-9-CM	32.20	32.41	32.20 or 32.41					
Cases per hospital	≥ 1 case	≥ 1 case	≥ 1 case	≥ 100 cases	≥ 150 cases	≥ 200 cases	≥ 250 cases	≥ 300 cases
Hospitals	702	495	724	26	15	10	5	3
Cases	10,089	6,487	15,792	5052	3731	2893	1772	1266
% LOS 0 to 2 days	42.7%	14.3%	31.6%	42.2%	57.2%	73.8%	100.0%	100.0%
% LOS 0 to 1 days	18.1%	2.7%	12.1%	18.7%	25.3%	32.6%	53.3%	74.6%
Mean	3.85	5.26	4.33	3.60	2.32	1.94	1.47	1.25
SD	3.74	3.99	3.85	3.07	1.01	0.76	0.50	0.44
Minimum	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
5 th	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
10 th	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
25 th	2	3	2	2	1	1	1	1
50 th	3	4	3	3	2	2	1	1
75 th	5	6	5	4	3	3	2	2
90 th	7	9	8	7	4	3	2	2
95 th	10	12	11	9	4	3	2	2
Maximum	56	68	68	47	4	3	2	2

The Nationwide Readmissions Database includes 14,325,172 discharges sampled from non-Federal US hospitals (e.g., excluding US Veteran's Administration and military hospitals). Each pair of records representing a transfer from one acute care hospital to another was combined by AHRQ into a single record in the database (i.e., studied LOS is the combined value). For both, see http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/db/nation/nrd/NRD_Introduction_2013.jsp, accessed August 9, 2016. The discharges considered were those of adult patients (age > 17 years); elective admission on weekdays not via emergency medicine department; known survival to discharge; Diagnosis Related Groups 163 (major chest procedures with major complications or comorbidities), 164 (with complications or comorbidities), or 165 (without either); and International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) 32.20 "thoracoscopic excision of lesion or tissue of lung" (i.e., thoracoscopic wedge resection) or 32.41 thoracoscopic lobectomy of lung. The listed "≥ 100 cases" criterion was that used in the study Figure 1 and simulations. SD represents standard deviation.