BACKGROUND

The type of health services rendered to inpatients (INPT) differs from those to outpatients. IV drug administration, major surgeries, and ICU stays are unique services that change hourly or daily. Access to INPT data provides details of acute care often on conditions specific to INPT settings.

OBJECTIVE

To profile categories and specific elements of INPT data and compare them with data in outpatient databases.

METHODS

Databases (DB) with INPT data were identified by reviewing population healthcare DB profiles in B.R.I.D.G.E TO DATA® (www.bridgetodata.org), an online resource with 220 population healthcare DB profiles worldwide (as of July 29, 2013).

A search using the criteria Population Type = ‘Inpatient’ and keyword term ‘Inpatient’ was conducted in B.R.I.D.G.E to identify DBs with inpatient population/patient types (Figure 1). The search results were manually reviewed for inclusions/exclusions in the final data set.

RESULTS – Part 1

• A total of 135 (61%) out of 220 DBs profiled in B.R.I.D.G.E. had INPT data.

• Excluded from the 135 INPT DBs were 13 (10%) SRs, and 44 (33%) DBs missing diagnosis, drug or procedure data.

• The remaining 78 (58%) INPT DBs consisted of (non-mutually exclusive): Longitudinal DBs, National Surveillance Systems, 2, Cross-sectional DBs - 12, Hospital Discharge DBs - 2, and Registries - 25.

• Data attributes specific to INPT DBs profiled in B.R.I.D.G.E. are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Examples of inpatient data attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Examples from B.R.I.D.G.E.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demographics</td>
<td>Age, Gender, Ethnicity, Geographic data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical history</td>
<td>Hospital stay, length of stay, lab results, physical exam details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedures</td>
<td>Time and location of procedures, type of clinical care provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory</td>
<td>Type of cost data, drug coding system, drug &amp; diagnosis data - medical/pharmacy insurance database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient</td>
<td>Date of death, smoking status, alcohol intake, diet and physical activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Elements in Inpatient Databases to Enhance Safety & Health Outcomes Research

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