

Methodology Used in Analyzing Texas Hospital Data

The TCH.xls file was created by a research group including a biostatistician and medical ethicist as a means to facilitate open access to public records containing data from Catholic hospitals in the state of Texas. It is not an advocacy position about what needs to be done, but hopefully simply serves to increase transparency and accountability about procedures performed in Catholic hospitals.

Only Catholic hospital inpatient data was extracted from the Texas Public Use Data File for inclusion in the analysis. The Catholic hospitals were identified from the 2006 state list of acute care hospitals in Texas, the hospitals listed in the Official Catholic Directory, and the websites of the identified health care systems and respective religious orders responsible for their operation. Only one acute care Catholic hospital located in Brenham is not included since it is not required to report because of its rural location.

For the identified Catholic hospitals, inpatient data was obtained for the years 2000 through 2003. The state records are coded according to the International Classification of Diseases guidelines (ICD-9-CM) published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A database of the codes obtained from the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics is included in the provided files. The researchers responsible for TCH.xls searched for all records which had codes indicating sterilizations, contraceptive procedures, legally induced abortions, and termination of pregnancy. A complete listing of all codes used in searching the records is also included in the data file.

Only those fields from the Texas Public Use Data File relevant to the research are included in the extracted file. Each patient record in the extracted file includes the year and quarter of the discharge, the hospital ID, the name of the hospital, the sex of the patient, the admitting ICD-9-CM diagnostic code, eight additional fields for diagnostic codes, the principle surgical procedure ICD-9-CM code, five additional fields for surgical and obstetrical procedures, and the unique patient record ID. Fields in the records regarding charges, physician identification, and other non-relevant information were excluded from the compilation. It should be noted that the hospital identification codes are unique identifiers assigned to the hospitals by the state. These numbers sometimes change although the hospital remains the same.

A brief note on the selected codes for the search may be helpful. The V25.2 diagnostic code specifically indicates that sterilization for contraceptive purposes is to be done through interruption of the fallopian tubes or the vas deferens. There are distinct diagnostic codes for illegal, legal, or unspecified induced abortions. Only legally induced abortions have been considered. Also, there are procedures such as dilation and curettage (D&C) which can be used either "following delivery or abortion" or "for termination of pregnancy" and are given separate codes to distinguish these very different purposes. Only the codes specifically "for termination of pregnancy" were used for the search. The user is advised to view all the diagnostic and procedural codes in a patient record to gain a clearer understanding of particular cases. A complete list of the codes and their descriptions are included in TCH.xls.

The data for each hospital is summarized on the Hospitals tab. Totals for each code are given. While some records may contain duplicate codes, the totals only count the record once. All the records included in each total number may be seen by double clicking on the total.

A complete list of the codes and their descriptions follows. The codes are color coded. Blue indicates contraceptive measures, yellow highlights codes related to sterilization, and red is for those related to abortions.

External Links

[National Center for Health Statistics](#)

[ICD-9-CM](#)

[Texas Public Use Data Files](#)

ICD-9-CM Diagnostic Codes	Description	ICD-9-CM Procedure Codes	Description
V25.02	General Counseling On Initiation Of Other Contraceptive Measures	63.73	Vasectomy
	Fitting of diaphragm; Prescription of foams, creams, or other agents	66.01	Salpingotomy
V25.09	Other General Counseling And Advice On Contraceptive Management	66.21	Bilateral endoscopic ligation and crushing of fallopian tubes
	Family planning advice	66.22	Bilateral endoscopic ligation and division of fallopian tubes
V25.2	Sterilization	66.29	Other bilateral endoscopic destruction or occlusion of fallopian tubes
	Admission for interruption of fallopian tubes or vas deferens	66.31	Other bilateral ligation and crushing of fallopian tubes
V25.42	Intrauterine contraceptive device	66.32	Other bilateral ligation and division of fallopian tubes
V25.5	Insertion Of Implantable Subdermal Contraceptive		Pomeroy operation
V25.8	Other Specified Contraceptive Management	66.39	Total bilateral salpingectomy
	Postvasectomy sperm count	66.51	Removal of both fallopian tubes at same operative episode
635	Legally Induced Abortion	66.52	Removal of remaining fallopian tube
635.01	Legally induced abortion unspecified complicated by genital tract and pelvic infection	66.6	Removal of solitary fallopian tube
635.02	Legally induced abortion complete complicated by genital tract and pelvic infection	66.63	Other salpingectomy
635.11	Legally induced abortion incomplete complicated by delayed or excessive hemorrhage	66.92	Bilateral partial salpingectomy, not otherwise specified
635.12	Legally induced abortion complete complicated by delayed or excessive hemorrhage	69.01	Bilateral destruction or occlusion of fallopian tube
635.71	Legally induced abortion incomplete with other specified complications	69.51	Dilation and curettage for termination of pregnancy
635.72	Legally induced abortion complete with other specified complications		Aspiration curettage of uterus for termination of pregnancy
635.81	Legally induced abortion incomplete with unspecified complication	74.91	Therapeutic abortion NOS
635.9	Legally induced abortion without mention of complication		Hysterotomy to terminate pregnancy
635.91	Legally induced abortion incomplete without complication		Therapeutic abortion by hysterotomy
635.92	Legally induced abortion complete without complication	75	Intra-amniotic injection for abortion
			Injection of prostaglandin for induction of abortion
			Injection of saline for induction of abortion
			Termination of pregnancy by intrauterine injection

The following codes retrieved no patient records from the database.

ICD-9-CM Diagnostic Codes	Description	ICD-9-CM Procedure Codes	Description
V25.0	General counseling and advice	66.2	Bilateral endoscopic destruction or occlusion of fallopian tubes
V25.01	Prescription of oral contraceptives	66.22	Bilateral endoscopic ligation and division of fallopian tubes
V25.02	Initiation of other contraceptive measures	66.3	Other bilateral destruction or occlusion of fallopian tubes
	Fitting of diaphragm		
	Prescription of foams, creams, or other agents		
V25.03	Encounter for emergency contraceptive counseling and prescription	66.5	Total bilateral salpingectomy
	Encounter for postcoital contraceptive counseling and prescription		
V25.1	Insertion of intrauterine contraceptive device	66.9	Other operations on fallopian tubes
V25.4	Surveillance of previously prescribed contraceptive methods	69.7	Insertion of intrauterine contraceptive device
V25.40	Contraceptive surveillance, unspecified	69.92	Artificial insemination
V25.41	Contraceptive pill		
V25.49	Other contraceptive method		
V25.9	Unspecified contraceptive management		
V26	Procreative management		
V26.1	Artificial insemination		
635.2	Legally induced abortion complicated by damage to pelvic organs or tissues		
635.3	Legally induced abortion complicated by renal failure		
635.4	Legally induced abortion complicated by metabolic disorder		
635.5	Legally induced abortion complicated by shock		