

# FY 2020 Hospital Outpatient Observation Data

## RELEASE NOTES

### Background

These release notes provide information for users of the FY 2020 Outpatient Observation Data (OOD). This data includes outpatient observation stays from Massachusetts acute care hospitals for the period of October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020.

The Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) has added the following data elements to the FY 2020 data structure. Users of the data should consult the Fiscal Year 2020 Documentation Manual for further details.

- Associated Diagnosis Codes 11-15
- CPT Codes 6-10
- Primary Payer Type
- Secondary Payer Type

### Data Notes

- Observation stay data for six hospitals are included in the FY20 OOD release, but the data is not available by Site Organization Id (IdOrgSite). CHIA expects to correct this in a future release. These hospitals include:
  - UMass Memorial Medical Center – Memorial Campus (Org Id 130)
  - Health Alliance – Clinton Hospital Campus (Org Id 132)
  - Cambridge Health Alliance – Everett Hospital Campus (Org Id 142)
  - MetroWest Medical Center – Leonard Morse Hospital Campus (Org Id 457)
  - Lahey Medical Center – Peabody Campus (Org Id 4448)
  - UMass Memorial Field Hospital (Org Id 19835)
- Fairview Hospital (Org Id 8) reported increased volumes of observation stays in the first two quarters of FY20 attributable to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Many Principal Procedure Code Date and Principal Procedure Code YYYYMM fields are populated with “19000101” or “190001” as a default when no Principal Procedure Code is reported, and the field is left blank.
- Steward Norwood Hospital (Org Id 41) temporarily closed on June 29, 2020 due to flooding. Outpatient Observation stay data is only reported for the first three quarters of FY20.
- UMass Memorial Health hospitals reported a high volume of incomplete Principal External Cause codes in FY20. The codes are missing the encounter indicator (initial, subsequent or sequela) which invalidates the data. The affected sites include Health Alliance – Clinton Hospital (Org Id 132), Health Alliance-Clinton Hospital – Leominster Campus (Org Id 71), UMass Memorial Medical Center – Memorial Campus (Org Id 130), UMass Memorial Medical Center – University Campus (Org Id 131) and Marlborough Hospital (Org Id 133). Resubmissions were not able to be included in the Final OOD FY20 release.

### FY 2020 – Provider Specific Notes

Prior to releasing the FY 2020 OOD, CHIA provides the hospitals with a profile of the data submitted. Providers may resubmit data or may provide written feedback to CHIA. Below is a summary of some of the key feedback received.

- MetroWest Medical Center – Framingham Union Hospital Campus (Org Id 49):
  - Noted Source of Admission shifts in Direct Physician Referrals, Transfers from Acute Hospitals and Walk In/Self Referrals are attributable to the COVID-19 public health emergency and align with the 30% decline in total observation stays reported in FY20.
- Saint Vincent Hospital (Org Id 127):
  - Noted the reporting of invalid ZIP codes (00000) in 7.7% of observation stays in FY20 is reasonable but can be improved with better control of entries allowed during registration.

## End User Support

Documentation for Case Mix data releases can be accessed at <http://www.chiamass.gov/case-mix-data/>. For more information about specific data elements, facility reporting, or other questions about the data, please contact CHIA by emailing [casemix.data@chiamass.gov](mailto:casemix.data@chiamass.gov).