



**AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY**

**HCUP DATA USERS WORKSHOP: WORKING WITH HCUP DATABASES**  
**A One Day Hands-On Course**  
**(Computers Provided)**



**H·CUP**  
HEALTHCARE COST AND UTILIZATION PROJECT  
*Celebrating 20 Years of Powerful Data*

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2009**  
**9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**AHRQ CONFERENCE CENTER**  
**540 Gaither Road**  
**Rockville, MD, 20850**

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## **WORKSHOP INFORMATION**

AHRQ is conducting a one-day workshop for health services researchers interested in gaining hands-on experience with the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) resources.

### **What is HCUP?**

HCUP is a family of health care databases, software tools, research publications, and support services created through a Federal-State-Industry partnership and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). HCUP provides health care databases for research and policy analysis, as well as tools and products to enhance the capabilities of the data. HCUP is the largest collection of publicly available, multi-year hospital care (inpatient, outpatient, and emergency department) data in the United States, with all-payer, encounter-level information beginning in 1988.

HCUP databases and tools enable research on a broad range of health research and policy issues at the national, state, and local market levels, including cost and quality of health services, medical practice patterns, access to health care, and outcomes of treatments.

### **Who should attend the One-Day HCUP Hands-On Workshop?**

This workshop is designed for intermediate-level health services researchers and analysts who are interested in learning about HCUP databases and products. Individuals interested in national, regional, State, and/or local health care analyses or clinical research using administrative health care data would benefit from this workshop.

Given the nature and pace of this course, some prior familiarity with health care administrative data and SAS is recommended. **Note:** *Attendees should review the on-line HCUP overview course prior to the workshop (<http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/overviewcourse.jsp>).* This 90 minute interactive, modular course provides an overview of the HCUP data, software tools, and related products.

### **Description of the Workshop**

The workshop will provide in-depth exposure to HCUP resources through hands-on training with several HCUP databases and related tools. The course will begin with an overview of HCUP products, including a demonstration of HCUPnet, a free on-line querying tool that provides instant access to HCUP data.

Following the introductory material, faculty will present step-by-step instruction on working with the HCUP databases to produce national, regional, state, and local level health care estimates. Attendees will have access to computers loaded with subsets of the HCUP Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS), Kids' Inpatient Database (KID), State Inpatient Databases (SID), and State Emergency Department Databases (SEDD). Attendees will have the opportunity to run SAS programs on the HCUP databases. All SAS programs will be provided. Faculty will cover the basics of loading data files to more advanced examples of weighting the data and calculating variance estimates. The course will conclude with information on applying the AHRQ Quality Indicators to HCUP data.

Faculty will be available throughout the day for consultation on how HCUP data can support attendees' research interests. Instructional and reference materials will be distributed and discussed.

### What is the Workshop Agenda? (subject to change)

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Overview of HCUP Data
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	HCUPnet Demo
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Hands-On with the National HCUP Databases
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (on your own)
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) Introduction
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Hands-on with the State HCUP Databases
2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Break
2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Quality Indicator Demonstration
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Consultation with Experts on Registrant Research Topics

### Where will the Workshop take place?

The workshop will be held at the AHRQ Conference Center in the Eisenberg Building, located at 540 Gaither Road in Rockville, Maryland, 20850. The Eisenberg Building is metro accessible. Please see the "Logistical Fact Sheet" at the end of this document for more information.

**Registration Fee:** No charge

### How Do I Register?

Please complete the registration form on page 4 of this document. E-mail, fax or mail the form as directed. The workshop can accommodate a maximum of 35 participants. Registrants will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Notification of whether you are enrolled or waitlisted for this course will be sent to you via e-mail.

**Note:** *AHRQ is offering this workshop free of charge to participants. Please be considerate and do not reserve a space unless you actually plan to attend.*

**Registration Deadline:** April 24, 2009 (until the maximum number is reached)

### Contact information:

For program questions or to request any special accessibility requirements (sign interpretation, wheelchair ramp access, etc.), e-mail [hcup@ahrq.gov](mailto:hcup@ahrq.gov) or call 1-866-290-HCUP.

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**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Complete this registration page and mail, fax or e-mail it to:**

Diana Brown  
Social & Scientific Systems, Inc. (Support Contractor to the AHRQ)  
8757 Georgia Avenue, 12th Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Telephone: 301-628-3118  
Fax: 301-628-3101, E-mail: [dbrown@s-3.com](mailto:dbrown@s-3.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
last, first, middle initial (include degrees for printed list of participants)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Indicate your familiarity and experience using HCUP databases. Please Circle One.  
Advanced User                      Intermediate User (some HCUP data experience)                      Beginner (no HCUP experience)

2. We want to have appropriate staff available for your questions. Please describe your research and/or analytic interests in using HCUP data:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Please indicate statistical software languages you are familiar with – e.g., SAS, SPSS, Stata, etc.:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**LOGISTICAL FACTSHEET**

**Please print or save a copy of this factsheet as this document may be removed from the website after registration is closed.**

**Location:** AHRQ Conference Center in the Eisenberg Office Building, Redland Center  
540 Gaither Road  
Rockville, MD 20850-6649  
Telephone: 301-427-1406  
Fax: 301-427-1276

Google map link:

[http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s\\_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=540+Gaither+Road,+Rockville,+MD+20850&sll=38.838164,-77.406506&sspn=0.012469,0.021629&ie=UTF8&z=16&iwloc=r0](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=540+Gaither+Road,+Rockville,+MD+20850&sll=38.838164,-77.406506&sspn=0.012469,0.021629&ie=UTF8&z=16&iwloc=r0)

**For security purposes, please be prepared to show a photo ID to enter the AHRQ facility.**

**Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements, hotel accommodations, and meals.** There is a break room at AHRQ with vending machines. You will receive directions to places for lunch either within walking distance or via the AHRQ shuttle. For further details on AHRQ building location and map, please visit: <http://www.ahrq.gov/about/map.htm>.

**Hotel Accommodations:** There are many hotels within a 1-mile radius of the AHRQ building that can be found by searching on the Internet. Some local hotels offer shuttle service to the nearby Shady Grove Metro station and may also offer shuttle service from your hotel to AHRQ. Confirm shuttle arrangements when making hotel reservations.

**Ground Transportation:** If you take **METRO** (the subway system for the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area), the free AHRQ shuttle leaves from the Shady Grove Metro station during the morning at :15 and :45 minutes past the hour starting at 6:45 a.m. and will bring you directly to the AHRQ building. To reach the AHRQ shuttle, turn **left** after exiting the Metro fare gates at the Shady Grove station, go up the escalator—the shuttle will park to your immediate right. If you take Metrobus instead of the AHRQ shuttle, take the route 63 or 66 bus from the Shady Grove station. The AHRQ building is located across the parking lot from the Market Place store at the corner of Redland and Gaither Roads.

If you drive, **pay parking** is available at the AHRQ building. The lot is accessible only through the entrance on Gaither Road. Maximum daily cost is \$4.

**Driving Directions:** **From Baltimore:** Take I-95 South to I-495 West. Then follow directions from Prince Georges County.

**From Prince Georges County:** Take I-495 West (toward Bethesda) to the I-270 North exit. Take I-270 North to Shady Grove Road East (Exit 8) and immediately bear right to Redland Blvd. Continue on Redland Blvd to the second traffic light. Turn right on Gaither Road. Enter the Redland Center parking lot which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on the right.

**From Virginia and South:** Take I-495 North to the I-270 North exit. Take I-270 North to Shady Grove Road East (Exit 8), and immediately bear right to Redland Blvd. Continue on Redland Blvd to the second traffic light. Turn right on Gaither Road. Enter the Redland Center parking lot which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on the right.

**From Route 355 North (Rockville Pike):** Turn left on Redland Blvd and turn left at the intersection of Redland Blvd and Gaither Road. From Gaither Road, enter the Redland Center parking lot which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on the right.

**From Route 355 South (Rockville Pike):** Turn right on Redland Blvd and turn left at the intersection of Redland Blvd and Gaither Road. From Gaither Road, enter the Redland Center parking lot which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on the right.

**From Frederick County:** Take I-270 South to Shady Grove Road East (Exit 8). Travel east about .6 miles and turn right on Gaither Road. Travel south and cross Redland Blvd. From Gaither Road, turn right into the Redland Center parking lot.

**From Hubert H. Humphrey Building:** Go West on Independence Avenue SW (toward Washington Avenue SW). Turn left onto ramp. Stay straight to 9th Street SW. Take I-395 South ramp (toward Virginia) and merge onto I-395 (toward Richmond). Take George Washington Memorial Parkway North (Exit 10C, toward Arlington Cemetery). Take I-495 North (toward Maryland). Follow directions from Virginia and South.

**Shuttle/Taxi  
Services from  
Airports:**

From **Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA), Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD), and Baltimore Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport (BWI):**

- **SuperShuttle** 1-800-BLUE VAN (1-800-258-3826): Reservations should be made **in advance**.
- **The Airport Shuttle** 1-800-776-0323 or 410-381-2772: Reservations should be made **in advance**.
- **Taxicab:** Taxis are readily available outside the baggage claim areas of all local airports.  
A direct trip from any of the three airports takes approximately 1 hour depending on traffic. Allow slightly more time to/from BWI and slightly less to/from DCA.

**Metro Subway  
Services:**

Metro farecards are magnetic cards purchased from machines located at the entrance to each station. The fares between stations are listed at the station entrance. Farecards can be purchased for any amount of money up to \$20.

From **Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)**: Board the Metro **Yellow Line** going toward the *Mount Vernon Square – 7th St-Convention Center* station. Transfer at the *Gallery Place-Chinatown* station to the **Red Line** toward *Shady Grove*. Exit at *Shady Grove* station. Travel time is 1 hour and 20 minutes.

From **Union Station/Amtrak**: Board the Metro **Red Line** toward *Shady Grove* and exit at the *Shady Grove* station. Travel time is approximately 50 minutes.

Once at the Shady Grove station, follow the directions provided in the Ground Transportation section above for free AHRQ shuttle service directions to the AHRQ Eisenberg Office Building.

An interactive map of the Metro subway system that allows you to click on any station name for information about that station is available on the Web at <http://www.wmata.com/metro/rail/systemmap.cfm>.