



**AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY**

**HCUP DATA USERS' WORKSHOP: WORKING WITH HCUP DATABASES**  
**A Full-Day Course**  
**(Computers Provided)**



**Wednesday, September 24, 2014**  
**9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

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

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## **WORKSHOP INFORMATION**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is conducting a full-day workshop for health services researchers interested in gaining instructor-led experience working on a computer with the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) data and tools.

### **What Is HCUP?**

HCUP is a family of health care databases, software tools, research publications, and support services. It was created through a Federal-State-Industry partnership and is sponsored by AHRQ, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). 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, multiyear hospital care (inpatient, ambulatory surgery, 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 HCUP Data Users' Workshop?**

This intermediate-level workshop is designed for health services researchers and analysts who would like to learn more about using HCUP databases and products. Those interested in learning more about conducting revisit and readmission analyses would especially benefit from the workshop.

Given the content and pace of this course, participants would benefit from having prior experience with large administrative databases as well as statistical software packages such as SAS. Experience with HCUP databases or prior attendance at [HCUP webinar series overview presentations](#) would be helpful. We also recommended that participants review the [Online HCUP Overview Course](#) before the workshop.

### **Description of the Workshop**

The workshop will provide in-depth exposure to HCUP resources through instructor-led training on select HCUP databases and tools. The course will begin with a brief overview of HCUP and a demonstration of HCUPnet—a free online querying tool that provides instant access to HCUP statistics.

After the introduction and overview, faculty will present step-by-step instruction on working with the HCUP databases to conduct revisit analyses with HCUP data. Participants will use computers loaded with subsets of HCUP databases and will run SAS programs on the databases; SAS programs and computers will be provided. Faculty will cover the basics of loading data files and progress to more advanced topics, including important considerations in conducting revisit and readmission analyses.

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

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**Workshop Agenda (subject to change)**

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.	Introduction
9:10 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.	Overview of HCUP Databases and Resources
9:40 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	HCUPnet Demonstration
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.	Instructor-Led Analyses With State HCUP Databases
12:25 pm. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch (on your own) <sup>1 2</sup>
1:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Instructor-Led Analyses With State HCUP Databases (cont.)
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Consultation With HCUP Experts on Attendee Research Topics

**Workshop Location**

The workshop will be held at the AHRQ Conference Center in the Eisenberg Building, located at 540 Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland, 20850. The Eisenberg Building is Metro accessible. Please see the Logistical Fact Sheet beginning on page 4 for more information.

**Registration Fee**

There is no charge for attendance.

**Registration**

You can register for the workshop at <http://cma.ahrq.gov/cma/registration.jsp?eventid=1>

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

**Registration Deadline**

September 16, 2014 (or until the course is full). Workshops usually fill quickly, so early registration is recommended.

**Contact Information**

For questions about registration or to request special accessibility accommodation (sign interpretation, wheelchair ramp access, etc.), please contact Diana Brown ([dbrown@s-3.com](mailto:dbrown@s-3.com); 301-628-3118). For questions about workshop topics, please email [hcup@ahrq.gov](mailto:hcup@ahrq.gov) or call 1-866-290-HCUP.

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<sup>1</sup> An overview of Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) will be take place 1:00–1:30 p.m. (attendance is optional)

<sup>2</sup> There are vending machines and a small café nearby and. Please feel free to bring your own lunch.

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**LOGISTICAL FACTSHEET**

**Please print or save a copy of this factsheet because this document may be removed from the Web site once 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

Google map link: <http://g.co/maps/h5pg3>

**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. Food options are limited—please plan accordingly. Registration for the day begins at 8:30 a.m.

**Hotel Accommodations:** Hotels within a 1-mile radius of the AHRQ building can be found by searching the Internet. Some local hotels offer shuttle service to the nearby Shady Grove Metro station and may also offer shuttle service to AHRQ.

**Shuttle/Taxi Services from Airports:** Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA), Washington, Dulles International Airport (IAD), and Baltimore Washington 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.

A direct trip from any of the three airports takes approximately 1 hour depending on traffic. Allow slightly more time to and from BWI and slightly less time to and from DCA.

**Metro Subway:** 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 the 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.

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**LOGISTICAL FACTSHEET continued**

**Metro Subway continued:** Once at the Shady Grove station, follow the directions provided in the Ground Transportation section above for free AHRQ shuttle 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: [Metro Trip Planner](#).

**Ground Transportation:** If you take Metro (the subway system for the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area), the free AHRQ shuttle that comes directly to the ARHQ building leaves from the Shady Grove Metro station during the morning at 15 and 45 minutes past the hour starting at 6:45 a.m. To reach the ARHQ 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 buses from the Shady Grove Metro station. The AHRQ building is located across the parking lot from the Market Place store at the corner of Redland and Gaither Roads.

**Parking:** Free parking is available at the Eisenberg Office Building

Redland Center  
540 Gaither Road  
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The lot is accessible through the entrance on Gaither Road.