



AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY



# **MEPS – HC Medical Conditions Data**

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# MEPS-HC CAPI Medical Condition Data Collection

## Priority Condition Enumeration

- 15 specific condition questions

## Sections with Open-Ended Reporting

- Condition Enumeration
- Medical Events
- Disability Days
  - 1996-2012 (discontinued in 2013)

# Priority Conditions: Ever told by health professional (18+)



- Hypertension/High Blood Pressure (HIBPDX)
- Coronary Heart Disease (CHDDX)
- Angina (ANGIDX)
- Heart Attack/Myocardial Infarction (MIDX)
- Other Heart Disease (OHRTDX)
- Stroke/Transient Ischemic Attack (STRKDX)
- Emphysema (EMPHDX)
- High cholesterol (CHOLDX)
- Cancer/Malignancy (CANCERDX)
- Diabetes (DIABDX)
- Arthritis (ARTHDX)
- Asthma (ASTHDX)- All ages
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHDADDX) – ages 5-17

# Priority Conditions: During past 12 months

## ☐ Chronic Bronchitis

- ☐ (CHBRON31, CHBRON53)

## ☐ Joint pain/aching/stiffness/swelling

- ☐ (JTPAIN31, JTPAIN53)

# Open-Ended Reporting of Conditions

- ☐ **Condition could be reported in all or some of these sections and in one or more rounds:**
  - **Condition Enumeration (No longer asked starting with P21R5 and P22R3)**
  - **Medical Events**
  
- ☐ **Questions for Condition Enumeration:**
  - **Between (START DATE) and (END DATE), did (PERSON) have any physical or mental health problems, accidents, or injuries?**
  - **What did (PERSON) have?**

# Medical Event Sections

## Event types

- Hospital Inpatient
- Hospital Outpatient
- Emergency Room
- Office Based
- Home Health
- Prescribed Medicine purchases

## Condition question asked:

- All event types except prescribed medicines: What conditions were discovered or led person to make this visit?
- Prescribed medicine purchases: What health problem is medicine prescribed for?

# Condition Coding and Editing

- ☐ Verbatim text recorded and coded to fully specified ICD-9 and ICD-10 CM codes
  - some text not clear or easily coded
- ☐ Collapsed to 3 digits in public files to maintain confidentiality
- ☐ ICD-9 codes are used in the 1996-2015 files
- ☐ MEPS switched to ICD-10 codes for the 2016 data year

# Condition Variables on Healthcare Event Files

## ☐ ICD9 (1996-2012) and CCC (through 2015) variables for conditions included on many event files

- Up to 3 condition variables for most event types (4 for inpatient file)
- No condition data on dental, home health or other medical event files

## ☐ Most events associated with only 1 condition

- No official “primary” condition if >1

## ☐ Can link to condition files to identify:

- Additional conditions associated with events (beyond 3 or 4)
- Conditions associated with Home Health events



# Medical Conditions File

- ❑ Each record represents unique person/condition
  
- ❑ Condition Codes
  - 3-digit ICD10 (ICD10CDX)
  - Clinical Classification Codes (CCCODEX) (1996-2015)
    - ICD-9 codes aggregated into broad clinically meaningful categories
    - Crosswalk included in documentation
  
- ❑ Priority condition question data not part of MEPS Medical Condition File

# Medical Conditions File: Linking to Event Files

- ☐ **CONDIDX (12 digit condition-level ID)**
  - Digits 1-8: DUPERSID
  - Digits 9-12: Condition ID
- ☐ **Merge with CLNK file (by CONDIDX) to get event ID (EVNTIDX)**
- ☐ **Link merged data to different event file types (by EVNTIDX)**
  - PMED linkage different (RXLINK)
- ☐ **A condition can link to >1 event and an event can link to >1 condition**

# Medical Conditions File: Event Count Variables

 Indicates total number of medical events that can be linked to the condition record

- Home Health (HHNUM)
- Inpatient stays (IPNUM)
- Hospital outpatient (OPNUM)
- Office-based (OBNUM)
- Emergency room (ERNUM)
- Prescribed medicine purchases (RXNUM)

 Can link conditions to specific events

# Medical Conditions Data: Limitations/Caveats

## Household-reported

- one respondent usually providing information for all family members
- more salient conditions tend to be better reported

## Many recorded text strings not easily classifiable into ICD-10 codes

# National Estimates of Condition Prevalence

- ❑ **Factors affecting condition underreporting:**
  - **respondent not aware**
  - **not salient or bothersome**
  - **no medical care received**
  
- ❑ **MEPS most appropriate for “treated prevalence” (i.e. linked to events)**
  - **most conditions reported in medical events section**

# Condition Data References

- ❑ Public Use File documentation
- ❑ Report titled “*Understanding and Analyzing MEPS Household Component Medical Condition Data*”
  - [http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/survey\\_comp/MEPS\\_condition\\_data.pdf](http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/survey_comp/MEPS_condition_data.pdf)