

# ORIE 4741 Project Proposal

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## 1 Our Problem

Our project's goal is to determine which hospitals provide the best care for different medical conditions. To do this we will examine which hospitals have a low ratio of length of stay to severity of illness as well as the costs for specific procedures. Going deeper we will also examine how demographic patterns and average costs in hospitals are correlated with recovery rates. To specify this examination, we plan to focus in on particular conditions and their varying recovery rates across different hospitals. Specifically, we plan to focus on sudden onset conditions such as stroke, aneurysm, and heart attack rather than chronic conditions. By choosing these conditions it will be easier to measure the efficacy of each hospital, as longer term diseases require more nuanced care and oftentimes patients are in and out of treatment making their recovery harder to track.

## 2 Example Dataset

One of the datasets we will be using is the SPARCS Hospital Inpatient Discharges for New York State, from which we will focus specifically on hospitals in New York City. This dataset provides basic information about all patients who have been discharged from a New York hospital in the year 2012, including their age, gender, and race. This dataset also provides information about each patient's length of stay, reason for admission, severity of illness, method of payment, and cost. Specifically, the dataset quantifies severity of illness on a scale from 1 to 4, with 1 being minor and 4 being extreme, as well as an ordinal field for risk of mortality, which will help our study. Furthermore, this dataset allows us to manufacture other features for our analysis. Two such features we think could help are the ratio of severity of illness to length of stay and the number of patients each hospital discharges in a year. By examining this dataset as well as others we deem relevant, we will hopefully be able to find a solution to our problem.

Link to SPARCS data: <https://health.data.ny.gov/Health/Hospital-Inpatient-Discharges-SPARCS-De-Identified/u4ud-w55t>

## 3 Problem Significance

The significance of our proposed project is that it will allow us to quantitatively rate NYC hospitals. This system will add tremendous value to local community members by offering data driven insights towards hospital choices. While this task will not be a small undertaking, given the relevance of the SPARCS dataset, we are confident that we will be able to develop a model that can classify the effectiveness of each hospital.