

Table 23. Nursing Home Utilization

The nursing home data are provided by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS). The State of Wisconsin Medicaid program funds nursing home care for individuals qualifying on the basis of need and financial status. As part of the conditions for participation, Medicaid-certified nursing homes must file an annual cost report to DHFS, summarizing the volume and cost of care provided to all of its residents, Medicaid-funded and otherwise. These cost reports are audited by DHFS staff and form the basis for facility-specific Medicaid daily payment rates for subsequent periods. The data are publicly available; see <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/provider/prev-yrs-reports-nh.htm> for more information.

The DHFS is interested in predictive techniques that provide reliable utilization forecasts to update their Medicaid funding rate schedule of nursing facilities. The data here is in cost report years 2000 and 2001. There are 362 facilities in 2000 and 355 facilities in 2001. Typically, utilization of nursing home care is measured in patient days (“patient days” is the number of days each patient was in the facility, summed over all patients).

File Name: WiscNursingHome	Number of obs: 717	Number of variables: 12
Variable	Number of Obs Missing	Description
hospID	10	Hospital identification number
CRYEAR		Cost report year
TPY		Total patient years
NUMBED		Number of beds
SQRFOOT		Square footage of the nursing home
MSA		Metropolitan Statistical Area code, 1-13, 0 for rural
URBAN		1 if urban, 0 if rural
PRO		1 if for profit, 0 for non-profit
TAXEXEMPT		1 if tax-exempt
SELFFUNDINS		1 if self-funded for insurance
MCERT		1 if Medicare certified
ORGSTR		1 for profit, 2 for tax-exempt, 3 for governmental unit

Source: Rosenberg et al. (2008).

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Example of the first five observations:												
	ID	CRYEAR	TPY	NUMBED	SQRFOOT	MSA	URBAN	PRO	TAXEXEMPT	SELFFUNDINS	MCERT	ORGSTR
1	101	2000	16.48087	18	10.861	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
2	103	2000	59.24590	63	19.782	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
3	105	2000	49.63661	54	26.868	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
4	107	2000	51.87432	60	26.319	0	0	0	1	1	1	2
5	108	2000	94.56011	104	30.700	10	1	1	0	0	1	1