

Reducing Hospital Lengths of Stay for Discharges to Nursing Homes

**Hospital Executive Council
February 2008**

Comparison of Mean Lengths of Stay Syracuse Hospitals 1996 - 2005

	Mean Lengths of Stay		Length of Stay Diff.	Patient Days Diff.	Average Daily Census Diff.
	1996	2005			
Adult Medicine	6.7	5.0	1.7	72,254.4	198.0
Adult Surgery	7.5	6.1	1.4	69,497.9	190.4

Data exclude rehabilitation (DRG 462).

Sources: New York Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS).

Comparison of Mean Lengths of Stay Syracuse Hospitals 2001 - 2007

	Mean Lengths of Stay		Length of Stay Diff.	Patient Days Diff.	Average Daily Census Diff.
	2001	2007			
Adult Medicine	5.7	4.8	-0.9	-25,087.5	68.7
Adult Surgery	6.8	6.2	-0.6	-12,587.4	34.5

Data exclude rehabilitation (DRG 462).

Sources: Community General Hospital, Crouse Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center, and University Hospital – SUNY UMU.

**Mean Lengths of Stay
Adult Medicine Excluding Rehabilitation
Syracuse Hospitals
2007**

	Mean Length of Stay	Severity Adjusted National Bmark	Length of Stay Difference	Patient Days Difference
Self Care	3.5	3.8	-0.3	-4,410.6
Home Care	5.6	5.0	0.6	3,694.8
Nursing Home	7.2	5.4	1.8	8,305.2
Deaths/Transfers	6.5	6.6	-0.1	-240.1
Total	4.8	4.6	0.2	5,575.0

Adult medicine data exclude Diagnosis Related Groups concerning surgery, obstetrics
pediatrics, psychiatry, alcohol / substance abuse treatment, rehabilitation, and all
patients aged 0 - 17 years.

Sources: Community General Hospital, Crouse Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital
Health Center, and University Hospital - SUNY UMU; National Hospital Discharge Study.

**Mean Lengths of Stay
Adult Surgery
Syracuse Hospitals
2007**

	Mean Length of Stay	Severity Adjusted National Bmark	Length of Stay Difference	Patient Days Difference
Self Care	3.7	4.1	-0.4	-4,711.2
Home Care	7.6	6.7	0.9	4,241.7
Nursing Home	10.5	7.5	3.0	10,377.0
Deaths/Transfers	13.3	11.7	1.6	1,646.4
Total	6.2	5.6	0.6	12,587.4

Adult surgery data exclude Diagnosis Related Groups concerning medicine, obstetrics
pediatrics, psychiatry, alcohol / substance abuse treatment, and all
patients aged 0 - 17 years.

Sources: Community General Hospital, Crouse Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital
Health Center, and University Hospital - SUNY UMU; National Hospital Discharge Study.

Difficult to Place Patient Criteria

- **Medical Complexity of Care**
- **High Cost of Medications – Oral & Intravenous**
- **Behavioral or Psychiatric Care Needs**
- **Possible Chemotherapy or Radiation Treatments**
- **Financial Issues**

Difficult to Place Patients

- **Distribution of Twice Weekly Electronic Lists of Patients Ready for Discharge**
- **Monthly Summaries**
- **All Hospitals, Nursing Homes, and Home Health Agencies**

Subacute Programs

- **Intravenous Therapy**
- **High Cost Oral Medications**
- **Extensive Wound Care**
- **Enhanced Medications**

Subacute Programs

- **Accessibility Criterion**
- **Community Wide Pool of Funding**
- **Uniform Rate Per Program**

Transitional Unit Program Development

- **Total Parenteral Nutrition**
- **Suctioning**
- **Transportation to Offsite Services**
- **Bariatric Care**

Planning For Long Stay Patients

- **Demographics**
- **Specific Populations**
- **Potential Initiatives**