



## THE TRENDING REPORT

# Fourth Quarter & Full Year 2003

### INPATIENT & OUTPATIENT UTILIZATION

Total Admissions increased just over 2% statewide from 2002 to 2003 while rural hospitals saw an average 2.6% decrease during the same time period. Total Patient Days increased 3%, therefore, average lengths of stay did not change dramatically. Overall, the statewide average length of stay stands at 4.47 days. Rural hospitals' average length of stay is a full day less at 3.44 days during 2003.

Total number of births remained virtually the same from 2002 to 2003 at 13,624, however, newborn patient days increased 3.8%, causing the newborn average length of stay to increase almost 4.5% to 3.32 days in 2003.

Medicare admissions remained the same from 2002 to 2003, however, Medicaid admissions jumped over 15% for the same time period.

Inpatient surgeries statewide grew almost 3% from 2002 to 2003, but rural hospitals actually experienced a decrease of 4.35% during the same time period. The growth in surgeries continues to happen in the outpatient setting. Statewide, ambulatory surgeries grew 4.5% - averaging just over 70% of all surgeries. Ambulatory surgeries account for almost 81% of all surgeries for rural hospitals in 2003.

Emergency room visits in 2003 were over 540,000 visits, a 1% increase over 2002 levels.

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total Gross Revenue climbed over 15% to \$3.9 billion for all acute care hospitals combined in 2003. Outpatient revenue accounted for just over \$2 billion in 2003 or 52% of total gross revenue. Inpatient Revenue per Total Patient Day increased approx. 10.5% from 2002 to 2003 to \$3,242.

Medicare accounts for almost 40% of total gross revenue and Medicaid is 6.6% of total gross revenue (an 8% increase from 2002 to 2003).

Charity Care dollars as a percent of gross revenue increased almost 13% from 2002 to 2003 to 2.15%, whereas Bad Debt expenses decreased over 7% for the same time period to 3.01%.

### **FINANCIAL RATOS**

Statewide, Deductible Ratios increased an average 4.3% to 43.75. The Markup Ratio increased at a similar rate from 2002 to 2003 to 1.87.

Rural hospitals continue to experience negative operating margins. In 2003, the rural hospital average was -.36% compared to the statewide average of 6.12%. Total margins tripled from 2.25% in 2002 to 9.5% in 2003.

Gross Days Receivable Outstanding showed a modest increase of 2.9% from 2002 to 2003 to a rate of 61.86 days.

### **NOTES**

- Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital did not submit DataBank information for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2003.
- Please contact Kathy A. Bizarro, Executive Vice President, at [kbizarro@nhha.org](mailto:kbizarro@nhha.org) or (603) 225-0900 if you have any questions.
- A copy of this executive summary and statewide totals of the Fourth Quarter & Full Year 2003 Trending Report are available on NHHA's web site at <http://www.nhha.org>.