



March 29th, 2011

Dear Colleague,

You have been asked by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), which is a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to provide information for the 2011 National Hospital Care Survey (NHCS). I am writing to urge you to participate.

The NHCS will provide nationally representative data on utilization of hospital care and healthcare statistics on inpatient, emergency, and outpatient care, and hospital-based and free-standing ambulatory surgery centers. This will be a valuable resource for monitoring healthcare delivered in the U.S. This new data collection will address healthcare policies related to the cost of care, inpatient quality and safety, disparities, and access. Your participation in this survey, although voluntary, will ensure the successful launch of a new, more comprehensive tool for monitoring the future of healthcare.

AHIMA endorses this survey and encourages all those facilities selected to take part in the national survey, to participate fully. I believe the information obtained will be well worth the effort you expend.

Sincerely,

Alan F. Dowling
CEO, AHIMA