



Charles N. Kahn III
President & CEO

April 17, 2012

Dear Hospital Administrator:

You have been asked by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to provide information for the 2011/2012 National Hospital Care Survey. Your participation in this survey, although voluntary, will ensure the successful launch of a new, more comprehensive tool for monitoring the future of health care.

The National Hospital Care Survey will provide nationally representative data on utilization of hospital care and general purpose health care statistics on inpatient care as well as care delivered in emergency departments, outpatient departments, and hospital-based and free-standing ambulatory surgery centers. Hospital administrators, policy-makers, and the medical community recognize this survey will be a valuable resource for monitoring hospital and ambulatory care delivered in the United States. These new data will address health care policy questions related to the cost of care, inpatient quality and safety, disparities, and access.

NCHS has a long history of protecting the confidentiality of patient records and the facilities that participate in its surveys. All information collected will be the property of the NCHS and kept strictly confidential. Results from the national survey will be published only in an aggregated manner that will not allow identification of any individual hospital or patient.

The Federation of American Hospitals supports this survey and encourages all those facilities selected to take part in the national survey. Your full participation is needed to ensure that future National Hospital Care Survey data will be useful to hospitals and to the entire health care community. The information obtained through this process will be of great value.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Kahn III
President & CEO