

How to Run Analyses with Custom Fields

Description

Custom fields are variables that a user can create for event or procedure-specific data. The list of custom fields can be found under the Custom Options page accessed by selecting Facility> Customize Forms from the left navigation bar.

- In this example, we have created three custom fields (variables) for the CBGB procedure form (scrub nurse, 1st assistant, and number of vessels) and have been entering data into these fields in NHSN.

The screenshot shows the 'Define Custom Fields' interface in NHSN. At the top, there are dropdown menus for 'Form Type' (CDC-Defined - PS - Procedure), 'Form' (CBGB - Coronary bypass w/ chest & donor incisions), 'Description' (CBGB - CORONARY BYPASS W/ CHEST & DONOR I), and 'Status' (Active). Below this is a table with the following data:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Label	Type	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCRUB NURSE	Alphanumeric	Active
<input type="checkbox"/>	1ST ASSIST	Alphanumeric	Active
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO. VESSELS	Numeric	Active
<input type="checkbox"/>			

At the bottom of the interface are buttons for 'Find', 'Save', and 'Clear'.

- To analyze data from these custom fields, analysis must be done from the Advanced folder (Analysis>Output Options>Advanced). In this example, because the custom fields are entered for a defined procedure (CBGB), we will use the procedure-level data analysis option.
- It is important to note that for analysis, NHSN will label the custom field variables as “custom 1”, “custom 2”, etc. rather than the labels you have created. NHSN will number the variables based on the order they appear in custom options manager. For help on how to re-order the variables, select the NHSN help icon found next to the form type.
- In this example, scrub nurse will be “custom 1”, 1st assist will be “custom 2”, and no. vessels will be “custom 3”.

Example

Specify Other Selection Criteria:

[Show Criteria](#) [Column +](#) [Row +](#) [Clear Criteria](#)

procCode			
= CBGB			

Other Options:

Modify Variables To Display By Clicking: [Modify List](#)

Specify Sort Variables By Clicking: [Modify List](#)

Select Page by variable:

Select Variables to include in Line Listing:

Available Variables		Selected Variables
custom7		orgID
emergency		patID
endoscope		dob
ethnicity		gender
ethnicityDesc		custom1
hpro		custom2
hproDesc		custom3
hrLabor		
htFeet		
htInches		
htMetric		
id2		
implant		
imported		
incomplete		
kpro		
kproDesc		

- To look at these variables in a line list, select the “modify variables to display” link at the bottom of the line list modification screen. Move “custom 1”, “custom 2” and “custom 3” from the Available Variables column to the Selected Variables column.

Output

- In the output, the custom variables will be labeled custom 1, 2, and 3 rather than the variable labels you have designated.

National Healthcare Safety Network
Line Listing for All Procedures
As of: March 7, 2012 at 10:20 AM
Date Range: PROCEDURES procDateYM 2012M01 to 2012M01

Org ID	Patient ID	Procedure Date	Custom 1	Custom 2	Custom 3
10018	874592	01/13/2012	SMITH	JONES	2
10018	8968900	01/27/2012	JOHNSON	CLARK	3

Sorted by procCode
Data contained in this report were last generated on March 7, 2012 at 10:15 AM.

Tip: Change the output format to RTF (Rich Text Format) and replace the numbered custom labels with your descriptive label.