NHSN: Reporting Height and Weight for Procedures

Description

Data entry into NHSN can be performed in several ways including manual entry, data upload by CSV, and data upload by CDA. When entering or uploading data into NHSN, there can be opportunities for entering extreme outlier values, which is allowable, but may not necessarily be accurate. This document will focus on reporting and reviewing for height and weight data on procedure records.

In the NHSN SSI Event protocol, height is defined as: The patient's most recent height documented in the medical record in feet (ft.) and inches (in.), or meters (m).

In the NHSN SSI Event protocol, weight is defined as: The patient's most recent weight documented in the medical record in pounds (lbs.) or kilograms (kg) prior to or otherwise closest to the procedure.

How to Enter Height and Weight data: Manual Entry

Height can be entered in feet (ft.) and inches (in.) or meters (m).

It is important to enter height as either feet and inches or meters. Only one height should be entered for each procedure record.

Weight can be entered in pounds (lbs.) or kilograms (kg).

It is important to enter weight as either pounds or kilograms. Only one weight should be entered for each procedure record.

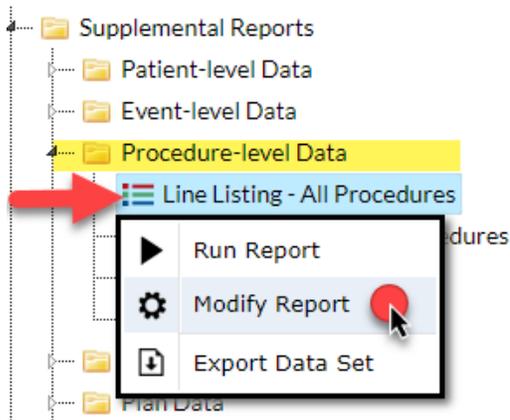# How to Enter Height and Weight data: CSV Upload

For importing procedures by CSV files, the options for entering height include: height in feet and inches OR height in meters. For every record, users must select one or the other. For weight, the options are weight in pounds or weight in kilograms.

W	X	Y	Z	AA
htFeet	htInches	htMetric	wtEnglish	wtMetric
5	6		167	
5	8		234	
		1.8		89.2

How to Search for and Edit Procedures Records with Extreme BMI (height and weight) values:
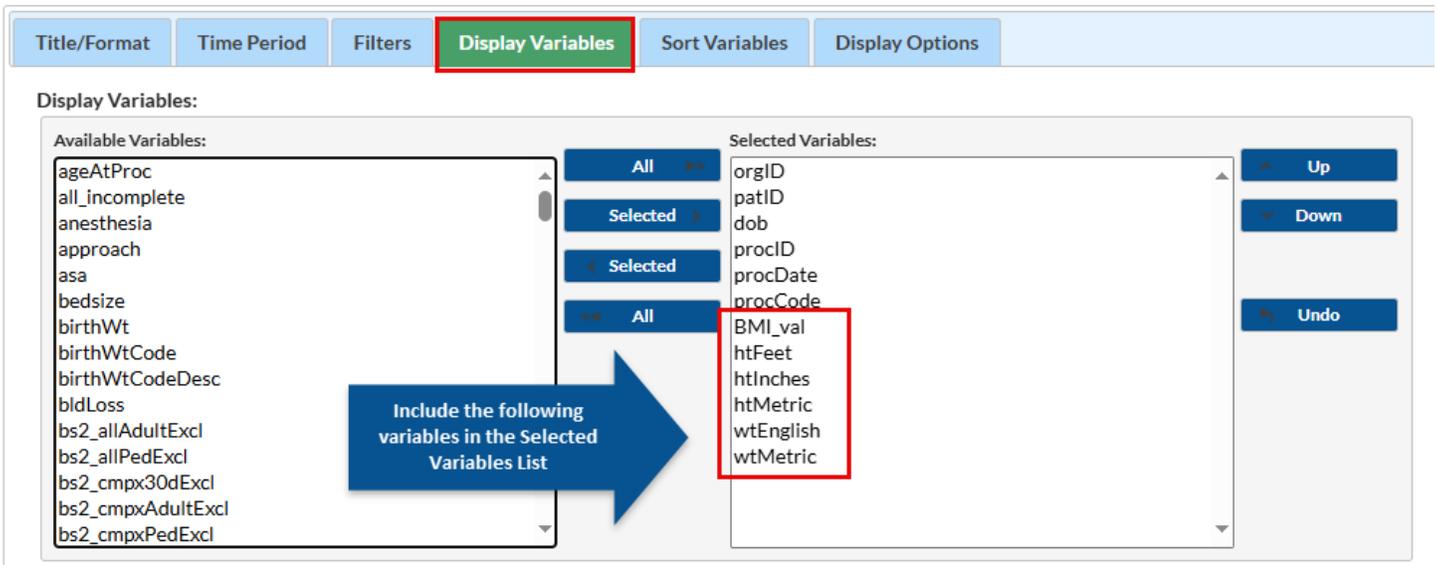
To confirm height and weight data are correctly entered, please use the steps below:

Step 1: Access the "Line Listing – All Procedures" report located in the Procedure-level Data subfolder of the *Supplemental Reports* folder and select Modify Report.

Step 2: Modify the report to include all the required data elements for your review. The first three tabs can be optionally modified to limit the amount of data included in your output data. For information on how to modify a report, please see: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ps-analysis-resources/howtomodifyreport.pdf.

The fourth tab, the Display Variables tab, should be modified to include the data needed to review the entries made for height and weight.

Step 3: Review the output and determine the changes needed to be made. In this fictitious facility, patient DHQP100201 is an adult with a BMI of 0.6718624, which is likely inaccurate. Please review the patient chart to gather the correct data. Then proceed to step 4.

National Healthcare Safety Network
Line Listing for All Procedures
As of: January 31, 2025 at 7:31 PM UTC
Date Range: PROCEDURES procDateYM 2015M01 to 2015M01

orgID	patID	dob	procID	procDate	procCode	BMI_val	htFeet	htInches	htMetric	wtEnglish	wtMetric
10018	123456	09/24/1932	46752	01/05/2015	COLO	27.996914	5	11	1.800	200.00	90.71
10018	DHQP100201	10/03/1969	58772	01/02/2015	COLO	0.6718624	4	0	1.220	2.20	1.00
10018	DHQP100202	01/29/1964	58773	01/26/2015	COLO	41.105469	5	3	1.600	232.00	105.23
10018	DHQP100210	08/29/1945	58781	01/11/2015	COLO	45.166037	5	2	1.575	247.00	112.04
10018	DHQP100211	12/03/1945	58782	01/19/2015	COLO	29.090858	6	11	2.108	285.00	129.27
10018	DHQP100226	12/03/1982	58797	01/02/2015	COLO	54.634469	5	1	1.549	289.00	131.09

Describing the output:

Based on the fictitious output above, all of the procedure records but one appear to be accurate. The procedure record with ID 58772 shows an adult with a less than 1 BMI.

Step 4: Find and edit the procedure record with the correct data. Using the procedure ID (58772), this patient's COLO procedure record is updated with the correct data. In this instance, initially the patient's weight in pounds was entered as 2.2 lbs instead of 122 lbs. The record is edited and the weight is changed to 220lb, which updates the BMI

Procedure Details

Once the update is made, generate new analysis datasets to incorporate the changes into the dataset.

What if the height and weight are not available?

If the patient's current height and/or weight are unavailable, NHSN recommends that the data be reported as 1 each. If the patient's height is available but the weight is unavailable, report both height and weight as 1 each. If the patient's weight is available but the height is unavailable, report both weight and height as 1 each. If the patient's height and weight are unavailable, the above guidance is used, the procedure will be excluded from the SIR.