

The trends for the annual point estimates of the frequency of gastroparesis for the data sample were plotted and analyzed. The annual frequency of discharges with gastroparesis was computed by dividing the annual number of discharges with gastroparesis listed in the NIS database in a given year by the total number of all discharges listed in the NIS for the same year.

The temporal trend in frequencies of discharges, length of stay, hospital charges and frequencies of deaths in subjects with gastroparesis was assessed by linear and polynomial regression. The most appropriate functional form for the trend was assessed by examination of regression diagnostic plots. Linear shape was determined for hospital charges & in-hospital deaths; a quadratic shape for length of stay and a cubic shape for number of discharges & discharge rate. A $p < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant. All analyses were performed using SAS (version 9.4, The SAS Institute, Cary, NC).