

IRB Approval Exemption

Data for this study was obtained from querying the Nationwide Readmission Database (2013) and the Nationwide Inpatient Sample (2012) which are publicly available datasets. Institutional Review Board approval was not necessary for a population-based public data set based on The Ohio State University Data and Specimen Policy and Human Subjects Research Policy. Per 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 46.101), research using certain publicly available data sets does not involve “human subjects”. The data contained within these specific data sets are neither identifiable nor private and thus do not meet the federal definition of “human subject” as defined in 45 CFR 46.102. These research projects do not need to be reviewed and approved by the IRB.