



Executive Summary: Hospital at Home Users Group (HaHUG) Minimum Dataset (MDS) Initiative

Overview

The Hospital at Home Users Group (HaHUG) launched the Minimum Data set (MDS) initiative in 2022, developed by its Quality Indicators Council. The MDS is a de-identified, patient-level dataset that seeks to capture information on all patients enrolled in Hospital at Home (HaH) programs nationwide, dating back to November 2020.

About the Hospital at Home Users Group

The Hospital at Home Users Group™ is a dynamic collaborative of Hospital at Home programs in the United States and Canada. Founded by leading academic researchers prior to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, the HaHUG provides a platform for sharing best practices, advancing programmatic and policy standards, and educating on regulatory and reimbursement frameworks to support the broad implementation of HaH in North America.

Purpose of the MDS Initiative

The MDS aims to collect standardized data on patients and outcomes to:

- Develop benchmarks
- Support future development of HaH quality indicators
- Support individual programs as they develop reporting and evaluation processes
- Inform policy and reimbursement efforts, particularly for models not currently reimbursed
- Facilitate research to strengthen and expand HaH implementation

The dataset is fully de-identified, and participating health systems remain **anonymous**. Data collection incorporates fields aligned with CMS reporting requirements and common payer metrics, with a goal of requesting structured electronic data.

Current Participation

To date, 33 individual hospitals are actively collaborating on the MDS initiative.

Benefits of Participation

Participating hospitals receive annual benchmarking reports to help:

- Assess program performance
- Identify areas for growth and improvement
- Demonstrate program value to internal and external stakeholders
- Move the policy and regulatory conversation forward with a national data set

No Cost to Participate

Participation is free. This initiative is supported by grant funding from The John A. Hartford Foundation (JAHF). HaHUG remains a non-commercial, no-cost, open-source resource for programs delivering acute care in the home.

If you are interested in contributing, please complete the [MDS Interest Form](#) and we will follow up with you shortly. Please contact Gabrielle Schiller (gabrielle.schiller@mssm.edu) and Annabel Steiner (annabel.steiner@mssm.edu) with any questions.