



Medicare Wage Index Occupational Mix Survey

Presented by
Southeast Reimbursement Group, LLC



What is the Occupational Mix Survey?

- The intention of the wage index adjustment is to capture the differences in a hospital's labor costs arising from the market driven costs of labor which is beyond management's control.
- The OM adjustment to the wage index came about to neutralize the impact of a hospital's decision to employ a higher percentage of skilled nursing staff than the national average.

What does the survey look like?

**MEDICARE WAGE INDEX
OCCUPATIONAL MIX SURVEY**

Date: ___/___/___

Provider Number: _____

Provider Contact Name: _____

Provider Contact Phone Number: _____

Reporting Period: Pay Periods Ending Between 01/01/2010 and 12/31/2010

Report Paid Salaries and Paid Hours in whole numbers. Round Average Hourly Wage to 2 decimal places.



Occupational Category	Paid Salaries	Paid Hours	Average Hourly Wage (Salaries/Hours)
Nursing Occupations			
RNs			
LPNs and Surgical Technologists			
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants			
Medical Assistants			
Total Nursing			
All Other Occupations			
Total (Nursing and All Other)			



When is it?

- The Occupational Mix Survey (OMS) is prepared every 3 years for each short-term acute care hospital subject to IPPS participating in the Medicare program, in order to construct an OM adjustment to the wage index.
- The data affects the hospital's payments for a three year period.



What does the OMS cover?

- The last OM survey covered a 12 month period and included pay periods ending between 1/1/2010 – 12/31/2010 and will be applied to the FY 2013 – 2015 wage index.



When is the OMS due?

- The most recent survey was due to CMS on July 1, 2011.
- This survey is currently under review along with your wage index data for FFY 2013.
- Revisions are due to the MAC no later than December 5, 2011.



What does the OMS include?

- Included in the survey is employed staff, as well as contracted staff and home office and related organization personnel.

How is the OMS completed?

- Nursing personnel working the following cost centers must be included in the appropriate nursing category:

COST CENTER DESCRIPTIONS	Lines for 2552-96	Lines for 2552-10
Nursing Administration	14	13
Adults and Pediatrics (General Routine Care)	25	30
Intensive Care Unit	26	31
Coronary Care Unit	27	32
Burn Intensive Care Unit	28	33
Surgical Intensive Care Unit	29	34
Other Special Care (specify)	30	35
Nursery	33	43
Operating Room	37	50
Recovery Room	38	51
Delivery Room and Labor Room	39	52
Electrocardiology	53	66
Renal Dialysis	57	71
Ambulatory Surgical Center (Non-Distinct Part)	58	72
Other Ancillary	59	73
Clinics	60	90
Emergency	61	91
Observation Beds	62	92

Note: Subscripted cost centers that would normally fall into one of these cost centers should be included on the survey.



What are the OMS categories?

- The OMS requires the provider to categorize the salaries and paid hours into five occupational categories:
- RN's
- LPN's & Surgical Techs
- Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants
- Medical Assistants
- All Other



What else must be considered in the OMS?

- In addition to categorizing the staff, the provider must apply the same methodology that is used in the wage index calculation in excluding costs associated with excluded areas and for allocating general service salaries and hours to excluded areas.



Questions

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