

**WAC 246-455-010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "CHARS" means comprehensive hospital abstract reporting system.

(2) "*CHARS Procedure Manual*" means the written instructions for reporting hospital discharge data to the department.

(3) "*CHARS 837 Companion Guide*" means the written technical guidelines for creating the ASC X12 837 Health Care Claim file for CHARS.

(4) "Data use agreement" means a signed agreement with the department for transmitting, receiving and using records containing individually identifiable or potentially identifiable health information. The agreement specifies, at a minimum, what information will be exchanged, the conditions or restrictions under which the information will be used and protected, restrictions on redisclosure of data and restrictions on attempts to locate information associated with a specific individual.

(5) "Department" means Washington state department of health.

(6) "Diagnosis-related groups (DRG)" is a classification system that groups hospital patients according to principal and secondary diagnosis, presence or absence of a surgical procedure, age, presence or absence of significant comorbidities or complications, and other relevant criteria.

(7) "Discharge data" means a collection of patient records in which each record represents a single patient discharged from the hospital following an inpatient or observation stay.

(8) "Hospital" means any health care institution which is required to qualify for a license under chapter 70.41 RCW or as a psychiatric hospital under chapter 71.12 RCW.

(9) "Office of Management and Budget" means a body within the Executive Office of the President of the United States which is tasked with coordinating United States Federal agencies and can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb>.

(10) "Patient discharge" means the termination of an inpatient admission or observation stay, including an admission as a result of a birth, in a Washington hospital.

(11) Uniform Billing "UB-04 data set" means the data element specifications developed by the National Uniform Billing Committee which can be found at [www.NUBC.org](http://www.NUBC.org). Data elements are completely defined in the *CHARS Procedure Manual* which may be obtained on the department's website or by contacting the department.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.052, 2014 c 220. WSR 15-19-152, § 246-455-010, filed 9/22/15, effective 10/23/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040 and 43.70.052. WSR 07-09-091, § 246-455-010, filed 4/18/07, effective 5/23/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040 and [43.]70.170. WSR 03-13-029, § 246-455-010, filed 6/10/03, effective 7/11/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040 and chapter 70.170 RCW. WSR 94-12-090, § 246-455-010, filed 6/1/94, effective 7/2/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-455-010, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.39.180. WSR 85-17-020 (Order 85-05, Resolution No. 85-05), § 261-50-020, filed 8/13/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.39 RCW. WSR 84-20-067 (Order 84-06, Resolution No. 84-06), § 261-50-020, filed 10/1/84.]