



Update
February 11, 2005

PricePoint Web Site Now Live: WHA Information Center's new PricePoint Web site (www.wipricepoint.org) is now live. The Web site provides free access to an unprecedented level of detail about charges and services at Wisconsin hospitals.

PricePoint is unique among similar Web sites across the country in that it provides aggregate "discount" information for each hospital for the three major kinds of health care coverage – private insurance, Medicare and Medicaid. This information allows users to understand how hospitals' charges compare to the amount of revenue they actually collect for services provided to the three patient categories.

Health Care Data Report Released: WHA Information Center's [2003 Health Care Data Report](#) has been posted to our Web site. Reports for previous years were produced by BHI. The 2003 report includes Emergency Department Visit (EDV) data; previously EDV data was contained in a separate report. Access to the report is free through our Web site. Hard copies may be ordered for \$20 each from WHA Information Center.

3Q04 Data Sets: 3Q04 data sets will be released the week of February 14.

Wlpop Testing: Thanks to all facilities that have submitted test data to the new Wlpop system. Facilities that have not yet sent test files should consider doing so as soon as possible. Live data collection for 1Q05 begins April 1. Any questions about Wlpop programming requirements should be sent to whainfocenter@wha.org.

Please be aware that all 1Q05 data submissions must come through the Wlpop system. The current system will not be available for 1Q05 data. All facilities must use the new Wlpop layout, format and data elements for 1Q05 data.

2005 Hospital Rate Increase Notices: The threshold for rate increase notices in 2005 is 3.3 percent, based on the latest Consumer Price Index information from the U.S. Department of Labor. Hospitals proposing to raise their rates by more than 3.3 percent must issue a public notice and report their rate increase, with all required documentation, to WHA Information Center. For more information, see our [Web site](#).

Important Dates and Deadlines

- Feb. 14:** **Standard deadline for submission of 4Q04 discharge data.**
- Feb. 15:** **Data Submitter User Group Conference Call, 2:00 p.m.**
- Feb. 24:** **Standard deadline for correcting invalid 4Q04 records.**