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Characteristics of Hospitalized Children with Congenital Malformations

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Congenital malformations are a major cause of infant mortality and morbidity in the United States. Approximately 4% of New York State live births are reported to the Congenital Malformations Registry (CMR) with major congenital malformations. While limited, previous research has shown that children with congenital malformations constitute a substantial percentage of pediatric hospitalizations and utilize many hospital resources.

The Integrated Child Health Information System (ICHIS) database, developed by the New York State Department of Health, combines healthcare data of 1.7 million NYS children that are linked anonymously and longitudinally across multiple data sources including the New York State Congenital Malformations Registry, the Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS), and vital statistics. This research seeks to make comparisons of children with major congenital malformations and children without major congenital malformations in New York State. Of particular interest are the number of hospitalizations, length of stay, hospital procedures, and comorbidities.