



2009 Abstracts



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*The Epidemiology and Determinants of
Hospitalization for Pulmonary Hypertension
in the United States*

Pulmonary hypertension (PH) is a heterogeneous syndrome with diverse etiologies. Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) comprises a small subset of PH, whereas a number of more common cardiopulmonary diseases can also lead to PH.

Compared to heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, PAH is rare. Nevertheless, because of its poor prognosis and the exceptionally high cost of recently introduced therapies, PAH has disproportionate public health and policy significance. Other costs associated with PAH and other forms of PH, from outpatient care to diagnostic testing to hospitalization, have received relatively little attention. This project aims to provide comprehensive data on the epidemiology of hospitalizations for PH in the United States, including trends in the frequency of these events, as well as predictors of adverse outcomes, readmission, and costs associated with PH admissions.

Specific Aim 1: To estimate the frequency of and indications for PH and PAH hospital admissions in the United States.

Specific Aim 2: To determine the predictors of length of stay, death during hospitalization, and hospital readmission for PH overall and subtypes.

Specific Aim 3: To study the determinants of costs associated with PH hospitalizations in the United States.