29 Key Fields

for Trauma Registry Data Validation

One method of performing trauma registry data validation is to entirely re-abstract 5% to 10% of patient records. An alternative approach is to focus on the handful of data elements that have the biggest impact on trauma program performance.

According to Kathy Cookman, BS, CSTR, CAISS of KJ Trauma Consulting, LLC, this streamlined methodology can be appropriate for large trauma centers with experienced registry staff and no major data problems. She recommends focusing data validation on the following data fields:

Patient identification
Medical record number
Patient financial account number
Date of birth

System information
Injury time and date
Transport mode
Referring hospital code
Trauma activation level
Hospital arrival time and date
Trauma surgeon arrival time and date

ED information
Initial ED vital signs
Initial ED GCS components
ED disposition code

Injury information
Cause code
Cause E-code
Trauma type
Injury details
AIS value
Body region
Injury severity score

Procedure details
Procedure code (intubation, CPR, chest tube, all OR procedures)
Procedure start time and date
ICD-9-CM code with narrative description

Admitting information
Admitting service
Admitting physician

Care metrics and outcomes
ICU length of stay
Ventilator days
Comorbid conditions
Complications
Outcome

EXTRA: **TQIP Process Measures**
If your facility participates in the ACS Trauma Quality Improvement Program, consider including NTDB Measures of Processes of Care in your data validation methodology.

More information: For full details on this data validation methodology, read:
Can't keep up with data validation? Monitor your trauma registry with a "key fields" strategy.