

Country of birth recording in Australian hospital morbidity data: accuracy and predictors

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Reference:

Key Words:

researching CALD, data, data linkage

Research aim:

This study validated the recording of 40 countries of birth (COBs) in Australian hospital morbidity data and identified factors associated with the recording accuracy.

Results/Conclusion:

On average, 81% of NSW Admitted Patients Data Collection records for overseas-born people had the correct COB recorded. Sensitivities varied between 61% (Germany) and 99% (Spain). Specificities exceeded 99.5%. Positive predictive values were greater than 90%, except for Hong Kong (72%), Ireland (85%), and Czechoslovakia (89%). Negative predictive values exceeded 98%, except for the United Kingdom (87%). Where inaccurate, COB was mainly recorded as Australia or inadequately described. COB was recorded with greater accuracy in principal referral hospitals, public hospitals and hospitals in metropolitan areas. Accuracy decreased with duration of residence in Australia, increased with age at immigration, and varied according to COB.

Implications:

COB recording accuracy was generally high but varied according to hospital characteristics, country, and measures of acculturation.

Cultural Group(s):

All birthplace groups

Location of study:

New South Wales

Age group:

not specific to older people

Number included in study:

39,559

Type of participants:

People who completed the 45 & Up Study linked to records from NSW Admitted Patient Data Collection (APDC)

Research approach:

Quantitative

Type of data:

Secondary

Secondary data sources used:

45 and Up Study, Patient admissions data

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: