

2008

Hospital Market Report



V E R I S P A N

2008 Hospital Market Report

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 About This Report

For over a decade, Verispan has expertly served pharmaceutical and medical/surgical supply and device companies with dedicated and reliable research capabilities.

Verispan's *Hospital Market Profiling Solution*® is a well-respected source for hospital data. Findings in this report are based on data represented in this accepted, time-tested product. Throughout this report, the term hospital is defined as an institution *that provides patient services, diagnostics and therapeutics for a variety of medical conditions. The hospital must be certified by Medicare or licensed by the state in which it operates, provide inpatient acute care services as well as outpatient services, have a minimum of six inpatient beds, allow for overnight stays, and have a physician on duty 24 hours a day.*

Community hospitals are the main hospital category that will be used consistently throughout this report. Verispan defines a community hospital as *a short-term (average length of stay of fewer than 30 days), acute care, non-federal hospital.* Unless otherwise stated, data in this report represents the universe of community hospitals within the United States.

While market totals (*e.g.*, total number of hospitals) are current as of 2008, other data, due to data-collection timing, is representative of 2007. This report also includes some trend data. In such cases, Verispan collects the data over the trending period. Readers should be aware that discrepancies might be found if this report's descriptive statistics are compared with any other report that adopts a different data-collection methodology.

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