



AWHONN Benchmarking Database Frequently Asked Questions Spring 2008

1. What is the AWHONN Benchmarking Database?

The AWHONN Benchmarking Database is a new database that will assist Nurse Leaders to make evidence-based decisions in their everyday clinical and administrative environments. The database will also allow institutions to compare data from their hospital to like hospitals, as well as comparing to the entire data set.

2. Who is AWHONN's technology partner for the Benchmarking Database?

The AWHONN Benchmarking Database is a joint initiative between AWHONN and Strategic Thinking Industries (STI). AWHONN, the standard bearer for women and newborn nursing care, thoroughly researched, interviewed and assessed many Information Technology companies and conducted a "Request for Proposal" (RFP) process. AWHONN selected STI for this initiative because of STI's specialization and expertise in providing Women's and Children's Health Care professionals with industry leading information technologies.

3. How does the AWHONN Benchmarking Database compare to other databases?

There are many unique features of the AWHONN Benchmarking Database which are different from existing databases, including:

- Automated Extraction: Information is automatically retrieved from the **point of entry** in your electronic documentation system. This also eliminates errors caused by human intervention.
- Online: Information is available online (no more large binders of data or waiting for quarterly reports) and accessible **24 hours a day/7 days a week**.
- Timely Access: Data retrieved from your system will be available for **review within 48 hours**.
- Benchmarking: Enables you to easily **compare data** to "like" institutions.
- Trending: Reports can be created to **track important trends** over time
- Secure: **Information is protected and PHI is not extracted** from your system.
- Configurable: **Data filters and alternate views available** to meet your needs. This means you can associate data fields that you believe impact each other. For example: You can apply filters to see if the data supports the belief that tobacco use impacts low Birthweight.
- Interoperable: Interoperates with existing Electronic Medical Records systems. The data currently interoperates with **GE Centricity, Philips OB TraceVue, and Hill-Rom WatchChild Systems**. Other EMRs can be supported through creation of a new data extraction program specific to the system. We hope to have hospitals with similar systems work together to lessen this effort.



- **Updatable:** Will adapt as your EMR system is updated or upgraded.
- **Assists with data clean-up:** After each data extraction, your hospital will receive a report indicating the completeness and correctness of the data entry (where possible). This report can be used as a tool to address omissions of data entry in your EMR and help with quality improvement efforts.

In summary, the AWHONN Benchmarking Database is the only database that specializes in automatically extracting data *specific to the health of women and newborns*. The table below compares the AWHONN Benchmarking Database to other common databases, demonstrating the benefits of joining.

Database	Specialty Focus	How is data extracted and how often?	When/where is the data and reports available?
AWHONN Benchmarking Database	Perinatal and Neonatal	Data is automatically extracted directly from the point of entry in the EMR on a monthly basis (or more often if indicated)	Data and reports can be accessed 24 hours a day/7 days a week via secure on-line access. Reports can be imported into PDFs, excel, Comma Separated, and TIFF files.
Other Common Database Systems	Nursing across all disciplines; hospital wide; not specific to Perinatal/Neonatal	Data can be entered quarterly into screens; data is sent automatically on a monthly or quarterly basis	Some systems have data is available online a couple months after submission or quarterly; other systems distribute binders of data/reports.

4. Will the database have patient identifiers?

The database will not have patient identifiers or organizational identifiers. The extract routines are not configured to pull this information.

5. Will the database reveal my hospital name?

Your hospital name will remain confidential and not be revealed to any hospitals in the database.

6. How frequently is the data extracted from our Electronic Medical Records?

Data is automatically extracted directly from the point of entry in the EMR on a monthly basis (or more often if indicated by AWHONN).

7. When/where are the data and reports available?

Data and reports can be accessed 24 hours a day/7 days a week via secure on-line access. Reports can be created at any time as well and imported (formats include PDF, Excel, Comma Separated, TIFF)

8. How much does the database cost?

The database is priced for Institutional use. Fees estimated to include*:

- One-time installation fee of \$1500 per institution
- Annual license fee of \$4800 to \$7200 per institution (depending upon birthing volume)
- Special discounts available for multi-hospital health systems who all use the same electronic medical record (depending upon number of hospitals)

*All fees preliminary and subject to change

9. What type of personnel support will I need to support database set-up and ongoing use?

Based upon Beta Site experience and feedback, the initial set-up will take approximately 5-7 hours per week of one person's time (educator, specialist, or clinical informatics person—whomever you designate or oversees your EMR). This time will include the kick-off meeting and completing the clinical mapping (*please refer to question 10 for the set-up process overview*). Time thereafter will depend upon how often you are accessing reports, etc—and solely up to each institution (estimated an hour per week). You will also want to involve your IT person for about two hours during this set-up time to ensure VPN access.

10. What are the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) requirements for the database?

A hospital must use an electronic medical record system (EMR). Currently, automatic extraction is possible from the following electronic medical records (EMR) systems:

- *GE Centricity (formerly QS)* - site-tailorable or pre-configured.
- *Philips OB TraceVue* – all versions, however must use an external database (fairly common)
- *Hill-Rom WatchChild* – all current versions

AWHONN and STI look forward to working with hospitals that use systems other than these three; however, the installation and set up process will be more extensive for these new systems.

11. Is the database network based or stand-alone? The AWHONN Benchmarking Database is a stand-alone database and website residing on STI servers. Data from each participating hospital will be sent via secure channels to the STI servers.

12. If networked, where does the server reside (Inside or outside our firewall)?

The STI servers reside outside the hospital's firewall.

13. Are there interfaces involved? If so, what would the implications of our changing our EMR be sometime down the road?

The AWHONN Benchmarking Database is a stand-alone database and website residing on STI servers. Data would be either extracted from your EMR or by a query provided by STI and that extract would be transmitted monthly to the STI servers. Depending on the system you would convert to, we would use another



STI query or an extract query built by the hospital IT group. If you plan on migrating to another system, the AWHONN Benchmarking Database can lend itself to the hospital as a data mart/warehouse of sorts by providing a seamless view of labor and delivery statistics information.

14. What kind of technical support is available?

STI provides technical support for the extract process, loading of data into the AWHONN Benchmarking Database and usage of the Benchmarking website.

15. What are the server requirements at my facility?

Server space provided by the customer must have access to the EMR database for the data extraction application. Minimum system recommendations:

- *Operating System* - Windows 2000, Windows XP, and Windows Server 2003
- *Processor* – Pentium II 300 MHZ
- *RAM* – 128 MB
- *Disk Space* – 400 MB (250 MB required for installation)

16. What is the purchase process, including getting started and installation?

Purchase: Once a facility (or system) decides to participate in this unique opportunity, they will enter into a licensing agreement with AWHONN to be part of the database. An agreement can be requested by emailing benchmarking@awhonn.org or calling 202-261-2432. The contract outlines each party's responsibilities and associated fees.

Getting Started: Once AWHONN receives the signed contract and fees, a Database Welcome Letter will be sent to the designated site coordinator, along with a copy of the signed contract. The Letter will instruct each facility to designate a technical liaison to work with STI, the technology provider for the database, for installation and enhancements throughout the term of the agreement. AWHONN will then contact the facility to review next steps and answer any questions.

Installation: The installation and set-up process takes approximately six weeks* but is considered a one-time process.

Set-up Weeks 1-3*

1. Start the Technical Extraction Process
 - a. Complete Business Associates Agreement with STI
 - b. Obtain VPN Access
 - c. Schedule Installation and Configuration
2. Install & Configure Extraction Software with Member
 - a. Match Benchmarking items with Facility's Charting system
 - b. Install software and review initial extract
3. Review AWHONN Benchmarking Website
 - a. Initial Logon and Tour
 - b. Configure Demographic Preferences

Set-up Weeks 4-6*

4. Continue Extraction Process
 - a. Review Load Results into Database Staging Area

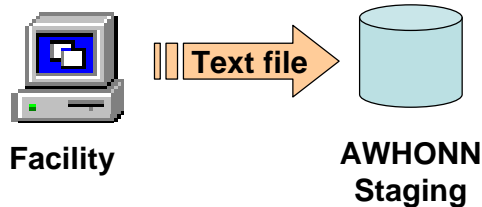
5. Review AWHONN Benchmarking Website
 - a. Configure AWHONN Column Matching
 - b. Report Navigation Overview

*The timing is approximate and may vary depending on availability of the facility's participants and timeliness of facility responses.

17. Once our extraction tool is in place, how does our data populate the Benchmarking Database?

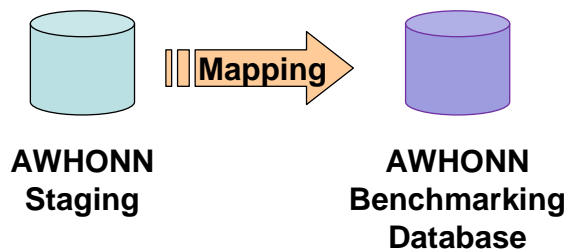
The data population occurs in two distinct steps.

Step 1: Loading your data to the staging area:



- Facility's Data is loaded to a "Staging Table"
- Facility Receives "Data Gaps" report of missing items and gaps
- Facility Maps New Clinical Categories to Standard AWHONN Items

Step 2: Populating the Benchmarking Database



- Each Facility's "Staged Data" is loaded into AWHONN Benchmarking Database
 - Includes "Clinical Mapping" process of mapping Facility custom items to AWHONN Standard items
- Facility Receives email notification of Database population