

Contact:
Scott Evans
SDI
267.685.4386
sevans@sdihealth.com

Jack Loughran
Buchanan Public Relations
610.649.9292
jack@buchananpr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SDI REPORTS: EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS COVERED BY MEDICAID INCREASED 6% IN 2009
Growth rate of Medicaid visits exceeds overall ER trend

PLYMOUTH MEETING, Pa. – March 30, 2010 – [SDI](#), a leading healthcare market insight and analytics firm, today reported that the number of Medicaid-subsidized inpatient hospital stays originating in the emergency room increased more than 6% in 2009 compared to 2008. The growth rate of all inpatient hospital stays that began in the hospital outpatient ER was less at just over 1%.

Additionally, in 2009, hospital outpatient ER visits by Medicaid recipients increased more than 6%, while total hospital outpatient ER visits nationwide dropped 1.3%.

“The current poor state of the economy is likely a contributing factor to the rise in Medicaid inpatient and outpatient hospital encounters,” said Joe Priest, SDI Vice President of Hospital, Payer, and Government Services. “The trend is consistent with other information that suggests that people who are unable to afford medical treatment will seek care at a hospital, where they know it will not be denied.”

About [SDI](#)

SDI is a leading healthcare market insight and analytics firm. It provides the industry’s most comprehensive de-identified patient-level data to pharmaceutical, biotech, and medical device companies, enabling them to better understand the healthcare market. SDI also serves the government and the financial services, media, and consumer packaged goods industries. Founded in 1982, SDI counts the world’s top 50 pharmaceutical and biotech firms as its clients.