



November 6, 2020

Assignment of Facility ID numbers as it relates to mergers, acquisitions and facility closings:

WHAIC has found it necessary to have an official policy statement to explain how a facility ID is assigned and distributed by WHAIC at the time a facility opens. The facility ID number is assigned to the facility based on its originating physical location, not by the facility owner. In other words, this number stays with the facility regardless of change in ownership.

To be more specific, WHAIC does not assign a new Facility ID to hospitals in which ownership of the organization, or their operating subsidiaries, are transferred or consolidated with other entities either within or external to the site.

The following considerations were well-thought-out prior to making this policy official and the decision to maintain an existing facility ID with the sale, merger or acquisition of a standing facility.

1. The facility ID is assigned by physical location, not by the name of the facility.
2. Data is trended by the facility ID, not by the name of the facility for purposes of data analytics and market share.
3. Data is populated in the various online publications, dashboards and external reports based on the facility ID, not by facility owner.
4. Annual and Fiscal survey data is based on 12 months of data. If a new facility ID was assigned with every merger or acquisition, all accounting and trending would be inconsistent.
5. WHAICs internal processes and management of the data and databases that contain historical data would be negatively impacted by assigning a new facility ID with each transaction that occurs.

A caveat is provided in the datasets to all data users explaining the transfer of a facility from one owner to another for historical purposes.

For more information, please contact the WHA Information at [whainfocenter@wha.org](mailto:whainfocenter@wha.org) to address this policy or its contents.