**Indicator Definition:** Hospitalization rate for ambulatory-care-sensitive conditions (ACSC).

**Indicator Overview:**
- Ambulatory Care Sensitive (ACS) hospitalizations such as asthma, diabetes, or dehydration are hospitalizations for conditions where timely and effective ambulatory care can decrease hospitalizations by preventing the onset of an illness or condition, controlling an acute episode of an illness, or managing a chronic disease or condition.
- Hospitalization for ACS conditions may indicate problems with access to ambulatory care, primary care resource shortage, poor-quality outpatient management or monitoring, lack of the patient education needed for appropriate self-management, patient preference not to follow treatment recommendations, and/or other factors that create barriers to obtaining timely and effective care.
- According to the CDC, preventable hospitalization from ACS increased from 5.9 percent of all hospitalization in 1980 to 11.5 percent in 1998. Since 1998, the national annual average for ACS hospitalizations remains around twelve percent of all hospitalizations (3.1 million hospitalizations).

**Trends:** The percent of Ambulatory Care Sensitive hospitalizations in Michigan has increased by 14.76 percent from 2000 to 2010. ACS hospitalizations as a percentage of total hospitalizations increased by 9.6 percent during the same ten year period.

**Additional Information:**
Michigan’s eleven leading causes of preventable hospitalization accounted for 67.2 percent of all ACS hospitalizations. The top leading ACS hospitalization has varied by age and gender. Bacterial pneumonia is the top cause for the age group under 18, whereas congestive heart failure is the top cause for the age group 65 and older.

**Links to Other Sources of Information:**
MDCH Ambulatory Care Sensitive Hospitalizations Index: [http://www.mdch.state.mi.us/pha/osr/index.asp?id=15](http://www.mdch.state.mi.us/pha/osr/index.asp?id=15)
National Hospital Discharge Survey: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhds.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhds.htm)

**Links to Related Public Health Programs:**
MDCH: Physical Health & Prevention Programs: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940---,00.html)
CDC: Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion: [http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/index.htm)