TEAM Brazil – Case Study no. 01

Test-bed name: Department of Regulation, Evaluation and Control of Systems (DRAC) of the Secretariat of Attention to Health (SAS) of the Ministry of Health of Brazil.
Test-bed type: Federal state archives (Executive Branch).
Topic/Title: Procedures for the Management and Preservation of the Hospital Admission Authorization (AIH) produced by the Decentralized Hospital Information System (SIHD).
Case study type: Records.
Start date: March 2008.

The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Brazil created the Unified Health System (SUS, the acronym in Portuguese) in order to provide the entire Brazilian population with access to the national public health system. SUS is comprised of public institutions directly or indirectly run by federal, state or municipal administration, as well as state foundations and some private initiatives, in a complementary way.

The digital entity that will be analyzed is the Hospital Admission Authorization (AIH), a document used to identify the patients and the services supplied during the admission at hospitals of the SUS network and to provide information to the Hospital Information System (SIH). By means of the AIH, hospitals, professionals and auxiliary services get to be paid for the services they provide.

SIH, implemented in 1990 as a replacement to the Social Security’s Medical and Hospital Assistance System (SAMHPS), is aimed to control and regulate the debts and payments of hospital admissions in SUS, all over the Brazilian territory.

In 2004, following several changes, the gradual decentralization of SIH-SUS to the levels of state and city governments was finally kicked off.

The case study is aimed to analyze and assess AIHs, according to the conceptual framework supported by the InterPARES Project, and thus suggest improvements and/or adaptations in the system, in order to ensure the reliability, authenticity and preservation of AIHs for as long as necessary.