

Repeat emergency visits for mental health

Resource for Indicator Standards (RIS)
Health Analytics Branch, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Indicator description

RIS indicator name

Repeat emergency visits for mental health

Other names for this indicator

Repeat Unscheduled Emergency Visits within 30 days for Mental Health Conditions

Indicator description

Percent of unscheduled repeat emergency visits following an emergency visit for a mental health condition.

A visit is counted as an 'index' visit (first visit) if it is followed by another visit that occurs in any Ontario hospital within 30 days.

The 'index' visit must be for a mental health condition however, the repeat visit can be for any diagnosis within ICD-10-CA Chapter 5 (i.e. either a mental health OR substance abuse condition).

Accountability agreement(s) or ministry initiative(s) the indicator supports

- Ministry LHIN Accountability Agreement (MLAA), 2015-2018
- Hospital Sector Accountability Agreement (HSAA), 2017-2018
- Multi-Sector Accountability Agreement (MSAA), 2017-2018
- The Quarterly

Numerator

Data source

National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS), Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)

Inclusion/exclusion criteria

Includes:

1. Information on unscheduled emergency visits to Ontario hospitals for mental health or substance abuse conditions, defined by the main problem diagnosis (MPDX) in ICD-10-CA Chapter 5;
2. The diagnostic categories refer to the main problem diagnosis for the 'index' visit;
3. All ICD-10-CA codes beginning with 'F', excluding Substance Abuse (F10-F19).

Excludes:

1. Visits for those without a valid health card number;
2. Visits for those without a valid registration date.

Calculation

Steps:

Number of unscheduled visits for mental health conditions followed within 30 days by a repeat visit, in a given quarter, by patient Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

1. Identify all mental health and substance abuse emergency visits: select unscheduled emergency visits with a MPDx in ICD-10-CA Chapter 5 in a given fiscal quarter plus the last 30 days of the previous fiscal quarter.
2. Determine 'index' visits: Sort emergency visits for each encrypted health card number by registration date/time; calculate the time interval between the discharge date/time of the previous visit and the registration date/time of the following visit; the visits that are followed within 30 days by another visit are identified as 'index' visits.
3. Categorize 'index' visit to Mental Health or Substance Abuse category based on its MPDx: substance abuse has MPDx F10-F19, all others are mental health (F00-F09 and F20-F99).

The number of mental health 'index' visits is the numerator for this indicator.

Denominator

Data source

National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS), Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)

Inclusion/exclusion criteria

Includes:

1. Information on unscheduled emergency visits to Ontario hospitals for mental health conditions defined by the MPDX in ICD-10-CA Chapter 5;
2. The diagnostic categories refer to the visits' main problem;
3. All ICD-10-CA codes beginning with 'F', excluding Substance Abuse (F10-F19).

Excludes:

1. Visits for those without a valid health card number;

2. Visits for those without a valid registration date.

Calculation

Steps:

1. Identify all mental health and substance abuse emergency visits: select unscheduled emergency visits with MPDx in ICD-10-CA Chapter 5 in last 30 days of the previous fiscal quarter plus the first 60 days of the given fiscal quarter.
2. Select Mental Health visits based on the MPDx: substance abuse has MPDx F10-F19, all others (F00-F09 and F20-F99) are mental health.

Timing and geography

Timing/frequency of release

How often and when data are being released (e.g., be as specific as possible...data are released annually in mid-May)

Data are available quarterly.

Trending

Years available for trending

Data are available from fiscal year 2001.

Levels of comparability

Levels of geography for comparison

Data are available at the LHIN level.

Additional information

Limitations

Specific limitations

Calculations based on interim data are subject to change when the final NACRS data are available.

Comments

Additional information regarding the calculation, interpretation, data source, etc.

A visit is counted as an 'index' visit (first visit) if it is followed by another visit that occurs in any Ontario hospital within 30 days, for any diagnosis within ICD-10-CA Chapter 5. The 'index' visit is for a mental health condition; however, the repeat visit could be for either a mental health or substance abuse diagnosis.

The diagnostic category and LHINs refer to the 'index' visit.

In order to provide more up-to-date results, the reporting period for the indicator has changed. The indicator now considers index visits occurring within the last 30 days of the previous quarter and the first 60 days of the reported quarter. Repeat visits can occur within the reported quarter or within the last 30 days of the previous quarter.

References

Provide URLs of any key references (e.g., Diabetes in Canada, [http:// ...](#))

N/A

Contact information

For more information about this indicator, please contact RIS@ontario.ca.

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