

Repeat emergency visits for substance abuse

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

Indicator description

RIS indicator name

Repeat emergency visits for substance abuse

Other names for this indicator

Repeat Unscheduled Emergency Visits within 30 days for Substance Abuse Conditions

Indicator description

Percent of repeat unscheduled emergency visits following an emergency visit for a substance abuse 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 substance abuse 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, Main Problem Diagnosis (MPDX) =ICD-10-CA Chapter 5;
2. The diagnostic categories refer to the 'index' cases' main problem diagnosis;
3. ICD-10-CA codes beginning with '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 substance abuse condition followed by a repeat visit within 30 days, 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 (F00-F09 and F20-F99) are mental health conditions.
4. The number of substance abuse '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 department visits to Ontario hospitals for substance abuse conditions, defined by the MPDX in ICD-10-CA Chapter 5, in the fiscal year/quarter.
2. The diagnostic categories refer to the visits' MPDX.
3. ICD-10-CA codes beginning with '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 ICD10-CA Chapter 5 last 30 days of the previous fiscal quarter plus the first 60 days of the given fiscal quarter.
2. Select substance abuse 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 LHIN level.

Additional information

Limitations

Specific limitations

Calculations based on interim data may be 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 substance abuse for this indicator; however the repeat visit could be for either a mental health or substance abuse diagnosis.

The diagnostic category (substance abuse) 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.

Date RIS document created (YYYY-MM-DD)

2012-12-03

Date last reviewed (YYYY-MM-DD)

2017-09-11