

National Prescription Drug Utilization Information System Database



The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) collects drug claims data from public drug programs through the National Prescription Drug Utilization Information System (NPDUIS) Database. CIHI uses this data to conduct critical analyses of drug utilization and cost trends that provide information on the health of Canadians and support policy development.

Key features

Comprehensive: Includes drug claims data from public drug programs in 9 provinces and 1 territory, and from 1 federal drug program, as well as data about which drugs are covered through those programs

Detailed: Provides information about the number and types of drugs that individuals are using, as well as associated costs

Comparable: Collects data from existing drug claims databases based on a national standard

Informative: Provides plan information related to eligibility, and pricing policies to support data interpretation

Usage

NPDUIS data is used to

- Manage and make decisions about drug programs;
- Compare drug spending and use over time;
- Measure the impact of policy changes on drug trends;
- Identify changes in prescribing, including switches between chemicals or changes in dosing patterns; and
- Support monitoring and surveillance work associated with problematic prescription drug use.

NPDUIS data in action

Use of Antipsychotics Among Seniors Living in Long-Term Care Facilities, 2014 (February 2016)

This study uses drug claims data from the NPDUIS Database to examine the use of antipsychotics among seniors living in long-term care (LTC) facilities and the concurrent use of antipsychotics with other psychotropic drugs, which further increases risk of side effects. LTC resident assessment data from the Continuing Care Reporting System (CCRS) provides more detailed information about the characteristics of residents treated with antipsychotics, including diagnoses, behaviours and other functional measures.

Prescribed Drug Spending in Canada, 2013: A Focus on Public Drug Programs (May 2015)

This annual report (formerly Drug Expenditure in Canada) focuses on prescribed drug expenditure, 1 of the 3 largest categories of total health spending in Canada. This report provides an overview of prescribed drug spending using data from CIHI's National Health Expenditure Database (NHEX). This report also provides a more in-depth look at public drug program spending using drug claims data submitted to CIHI's NPDUIS Database.

Persistence and Compliance With Cardiovascular Drug Therapy Among Seniors (February 2015)

This study uses drug claims data from the NPDUIS Database to examine persistence and compliance with the most commonly used cardiovascular drug classes among seniors to assess the degree to which these drugs are being used as prescribed. It also looks at potential risk factors that lead to non-persistence and non-compliance.

Drug Use Among Seniors on Public Drug Programs in Canada, 2012 (May 2014)

This report provides an in-depth look at public drug program spending for seniors, as well as the number and types of drugs used by seniors. More focused analyses examine potentially inappropriate drug use and compare drug use among seniors living in LTC facilities and those living in the community.

Adverse Drug Reaction–Related Hospitalizations Among Seniors, 2006 to 2011 (March 2013)

This analysis focuses on seniors (people age 65 and older) who have been hospitalized for an adverse drug reaction (ADR). ADR-related hospitalizations accounted for 2.7% of seniors' hospitalizations between 2006–2007 and 2010–2011, while accounting for only 1.0% of hospitalizations among non-seniors.



Have a general question, want a copy of an NPDUIS Database analytical report or want more information on the NPDUIS Database? Please visit www.cihi.ca/drugs or contact us at drugs@cihi.ca.