Results from the Canadian Survey of Experiences with Primary Health Care (CSE-PHC)

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Presentation Outline

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About CIHI

CIHI works to improve the health of Canadians and the health care system by providing quality health information

- A national, independent, non-profit agency
- Mandate:
  - national coordination mechanism for health information in Canada
  - provide accurate and timely information for:
    - sound health policy
    - effective management of the health system
    - public awareness of health determinants
About CIHI

- **Data Standards**
  Collaborate/promote development and maintenance of health information standards

- **Data Holdings**
  27 data holdings, including physician and nursing, homecare, acute inpatient, drug utilization and emergency department

- **Analytic Products**
  Produce a variety of reports, special studies and analytic products to address questions of interest to stakeholders
Several sources of input from major CIHI stakeholders confirmed a high priority need for more and better PHC information to help jurisdictions establish effective policies and programs by monitoring and understanding primary health care in Canada.
CIHI can respond to stakeholders’ PHC needs with 2 types of solutions:

**Data**
- Enhance the scope and quality of data through standards and data source development

**Information**
- Produce indicators and analyses that are relevant, actionable and address the need to monitor, understand and improve PHC.
## PHC Information Projects

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Study Methods

2008 Canadian Survey of Experiences with Primary Health Care

- Co-funded by CIHI and the Health Council of Canada
- Conducted by Statistics Canada to provide policy-makers and health system decision-makers with a new source of high-quality PHC information.
  - computer-assisted telephone interviews
  - did not include residents of First Nations reserves and Crown land, full-time members of the Canadian Forces, inmates of institutions and residents of isolated areas
  - 11,582 adult respondents ages 18 years and older living in private dwellings within the ten provinces and three territories; overall response rate of 71%.
- Includes questions related to respondents’ experiences with primary health care
  - Particular focus on chronic disease prevention and management
Experiences with PHC

- 91% reported a regular place of PHC
- 68% with regular PHC provider 5 or more years
- 65% reported always having enough time to discuss concerns
- 13% reported difficulties getting access for routine or ongoing care
- 85% reported wait time for routine or ongoing care acceptable or somewhat acceptable
Adults Who Rated the Quality of Primary Health Care as Excellent or Very Good

Sources
Canadian Survey of Experiences With Primary Health Care, 2008, Statistics Canada; Canadian Institute for Health Information.
Adults Who Would Recommend Their Primary Care Physician to a Friend

Sources
Canadian Survey of Experiences With Primary Health Care, 2008, Statistics Canada; Canadian Institute for Health Information.
PHC for Chronic Conditions

- 23% were typically given a written list of things to do between visits (among those with at least 1 of 7 chronic conditions)
- 40% did not make a treatment plan with their PHC provider (among those with at least 1 of 7 chronic conditions)
- Among those with at least one of four chronic conditions:
  - 94% blood pressure measured in past year
  - 82% cholesterol measured in past year
  - 80% blood sugar measured in past year
  - 74% body weight measured in past year
Avoidable Visits to Emergency Department for Seniors

Percent of Seniors (65 +) Who Reported that a Visit to the Emergency Department Could Have Been Avoided If Their PHC Provider Had Been Available, for Canada

- One third (33%) of seniors reported that their visit to an ED could have been avoided if their PHC provider had been available.
- Area for potential improvement for reduction of ED visits

Sources
Canadian Survey of Experiences With Primary Health Care, 2008, Statistics Canada; Canadian Institute for Health Information.
Medication Use Among Seniors

Percent of Seniors (65 years and older) Taking None, Few (1 to 2) or Many (3+) Prescription Medications, for Canada

- Most seniors (85%) are taking at least one prescription medication
- More than half (55%) of seniors are taking 3 or more prescription medications

**Sources**
Canadian Survey of Experiences With Primary Health Care, 2008, Statistics Canada; Canadian Institute for Health Information.
Frequency of Medication Review for Seniors

Percent of Seniors (65 +) Who Reported Having Their Medication Reviewed by a Medical Doctor, for Canada

- Slightly more than half (56%) of seniors have their prescription medications regularly reviewed by a medical doctor.
- 44% of seniors have their medications reviewed less frequently or never.

Sources
Canadian Survey of Experiences With Primary Health Care, 2008, Statistics Canada; Canadian Institute for Health Information.
Summary

- CSE-PHC results provide insight into primary health care in general and for seniors with chronic diseases

- Highlights include:
  - Access – generally good, best for seniors with chronic conditions
  - Need for better chronic disease care & supports between visits
  - Medication use is high among seniors and monitoring needs to be better

- CSE-PHC data can be accessed and used to:
  - Assess gaps and disparities in primary health care in Canada
  - Inform system-level research and decision-making and improve the quality of care for Canadians
Thank You & Questions

For more information, please see our reports at:

www.cihi.ca/phc

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