



Canadian Institute
for Health Information
Institut canadien
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Information Sheet

Taking health information further

CIHI's Impact Stories—CIHI Portal

Data in Action

Who Is the Data User?

Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres (CAPHC)

What Was the Issue?

Challenges in producing its Annual Report

- Not all of the CAPHC sites were able to effectively access comparative peer data
- The definitions being used for each site's pediatric data were not standardized

How Were Data Put Into Action?

CAPHC began using CIHI Portal

- Became the first formal CIHI Portal community of practice
- Has been participating in CIHI Portal since its beta release in 2005

What Were the Benefits?

Major improvements in the Annual Report

- Now data from all 16 sites are included
- Pediatric data reported by each site are now more standardized and consistent
- Report is now more detailed, including information from population data

Reduction in time to prepare Annual Report

- Using CIHI Portal, several aspects of developing the Annual Report became easier—including planning, validation of data and exporting data
- Time spent preparing the report was reduced from one year to four months

Pediatric centres get access to comparable data through CIHI Portal

“We really see the possibilities as endless for this tool.”

Lisa Gordon

National Coordinator
Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres—
Canadian Paediatric Decision Support Network



Between 2006 and 2007, CIHI Portal played a pivotal role in helping a network of 16 academic pediatric health centres create what they say is their “best-ever” annual report.

Thanks to the web-based tool, for the first time the Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres' Canadian Paediatric Decision Support Network was able to include reliable and comparative data from all of the network's 16 centres.

“Prior to participating in CIHI Portal, not all of our sites were able to effectively access peer data,” says Lisa Gordon, the network's national coordinator. “We had our own private network where we had a database, but access to it wasn't consistent for all members.”

In past years, each centre had submitted data according to its “site-defined” pediatric population. Given that all centres didn't share the same

definitions, the type of data submitted to the database was inconsistent. Using CIHI Portal, users can report on pediatric data using standard and approved definitions.

“Now all of our participating sites have equal access to pan-Canadian data,” says Gordon. “Additionally, we also have access to census data for the creation of rates according to population and geographic data, which can be used for many purposes.”

The 16 participating centres—including the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, the Izaak Walton Killam Hospital in Halifax, the B.C. Children's Hospital and the Alberta Children's Hospital—started working with CIHI in 2005.

“We really see the possibilities as endless for this tool,” says Gordon. “Because of this data, we were able to expand our Annual Report significantly and drill down into specific pediatric populations.”

Want more information?

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