

RETHINK RENEW RETIRE

*Evaluating priorities for
Canada's health indicators*



Consensus
Conference

2014

Toronto, Ontario
October 15 and 16



Backgrounder on

Key Focus Areas Identified at Consensus Conference 2009

1. Health Care Outcomes

As part of the discussion on health care outcomes, the group planned to focus on all health care system performance issues, including patient safety, access to care, efficiency of care, appropriateness and outcomes. All of the Health Indicator Framework categories under Health System Performance were brought into the discussion as areas that could potentially be measured to fully represent the outcome of any one indicator. An important aspect of the discussion focused on the value for money associated with these outcome indicators and the importance of adding a standardized cost component to aid in the areas of health research and policy.

2. Child and Youth Health

There are clear challenges in terms of sample size and resources when it comes to measuring health indicators for this specific population. Many of the indicator suggestions put forth were under the categories of health conditions, health behaviours and environmental factors.

3. Mental Health

The area of mental health is particularly challenging for indicator development, as the available data is limited. The group discussed issues and potential indicators related to use of services, suicide, prevalence of disorders and dependency behaviours, as well as the importance of measuring aspects such as stigma, discrimination and positive mental health.

4. Social Determinants of Health

Discussion covered measures of equity, including outcomes of inequality (e.g., reliance on social systems), education, income, housing affordability, nutrition, food security, social capital, homelessness, numerous other factors related to living and working conditions, and social supports known to have an influence on health.

5. Environmental Health

Indicator areas measuring the built environment (e.g., neighbourhood walkability) and environmental factors (e.g., air and water quality, exposure to contaminants, pesticide use) were explored in the discussion, as were potential data sources and the general problems associated with collecting comparable data at the national level in these areas.

6. Aboriginal Health

The area of Aboriginal health was identified as crucial as health indicators work is expanded. It was noted that in many ways indicators of Aboriginal health cut across the entire Health Indicator Framework. Furthermore, work to identify data needs for indicators should involve collaboration with existing indicator initiatives on Aboriginal health. As a result, no discussion group was set up for this topic in particular.

CIHI and Statistics Canada have implemented new indicators to address the topics identified as priority health areas during the 2009 Consensus Conference.

Many of the indicators are now also available by neighbourhood income quintiles and by the 2 disparity measures (potential rate ratio and disparity rate ratio).

Health Indicators as of 2014

Health Status	
Well-being	Perceived health Perceived mental health Perceived life stress
Health conditions	Adult body mass index Youth body mass index Arthritis Diabetes Asthma High blood pressure Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) Pain or discomfort that prevents activities Pain or discomfort by severity Mood disorders Birth-related indicators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low birth weight • High birth weight • Small for gestational age • Large for gestational age • Preterm births Cancer incidence Injury hospitalization* Injuries Hospitalized stroke event rate* Hospitalized acute myocardial infarction (AMI) event rate*
Human function	Functional health Participation and activity limitation Disability-free life expectancy Disability-adjusted life expectancy Health-adjusted life expectancy

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Health Status (continued)

Deaths	Infant mortality Perinatal mortality Life expectancy Total mortality by selected causes Potential years of life lost (PYLL) Premature mortality and PYLL
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Non-Medical Determinants of Health

Health behaviours	Smoking Heavy drinking Physical activity during leisure time Breastfeeding practices Fruit and vegetable consumption Bicycle helmet use
Living and working conditions	High school graduates Post-secondary graduates Unemployment rate Long-term unemployment rate Low income rate Children in low-income families Average personal income Median share of income Government transfer income Housing affordability Crime incidents Adults and youths charged Household food insecurity
Personal resources	Sense of community belonging Life satisfaction
Environmental factors	Exposure to second-hand smoke at home Exposure to second-hand smoke in vehicles and public places Lead concentration Bisphenol A concentration Mercury concentration

Health System Performance	
Acceptability	Patient satisfaction (and quality rating of services received)
Accessibility	Influenza immunization Mammography Pap smear Colorectal cancer screening Regular medical doctor Wait time for hip fracture surgery (proportion with surgery within 48 hours)*
Appropriateness	Caesarean section* Patients with repeat hospitalizations for mental illness*
Continuity	30-day readmission rate for mental illness*
Effectiveness	Ambulatory care sensitive conditions* 30-day acute myocardial infarction in-hospital mortality* 30-day stroke in-hospital mortality* 30-day acute myocardial infarction readmission rate* 30-day obstetric readmission rate* 30-day readmission rate: patients age 19 and younger* 30-day surgical readmission rate* 30-day medical readmission rate* Self-injury hospitalization rate* Potentially avoidable mortality and potential years of life lost (PYLL) Potentially avoidable mortality from preventable causes Potentially avoidable mortality from treatable causes
Safety	Hospitalized hip fracture event rate*
Community and Health System Characteristics	
Community	Population estimates Population distribution by size of population centre Population density Dependency ratio Aboriginal population Immigrant population Internal migrant mobility Metropolitan influenced zones (MIZ) Lone-parent families Visible minority population

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Community and Health System Characteristics (continued)

Health system	Inflow/outflow ratio* Coronary artery bypass graft* Percutaneous coronary intervention* Cardiac revascularization* Hip replacement* Knee replacement* Hysterectomy* Contact with alternative health care providers Contact with a medical doctor Contact with health professionals about mental health Contact with dental professionals Mental illness hospitalization rate* Mental illness patient days rate*
Resources	Doctors rate*

Notes

* CIHI indicator.

Indicators in **red** are new indicators produced by CIHI.

Indicators in **green** are new indicators produced by Statistics Canada.