

# Population Grouping Methodology

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) has developed an innovative methodology — a population grouping methodology using Canadian data, designed specifically to meet the needs of Canada’s health care systems.

## Overview of the methodology

The population grouping methodology builds clinical and demographic profiles for each person in a population, including health system non-users.

- **Clinical profile:** Summarizes health conditions identified from inpatient, day surgery, emergency department, continuing care and physician claims administrative data.
- **Demographic profile:** Comprises age, sex and geography information captured in the registered persons data. This data is maintained by the provinces/territories on all persons eligible to receive publicly funded health services.

These profiles determine each person’s expected health care needs. “Health care need” is measured using a set of indicators, such as the following:

- **Health profile group (HPG):** Synthesizes an individual’s clinical profile down to the most complex and clinically relevant health condition present.
- **Predicted health care costs:** Includes both current and expected future costs to the health system.
- **Predicted use of selected health system resources:** Includes number of primary care visits, number of emergency department visits and the probability of entering long-term care.

### Clinical classification and predictive indicators



