

Redevelopment of the MIS Standards: Respiratory Services

Part 1: Project Overview

This is the first in a series of 4 articles discussing the project to redevelop the standards for reporting financial and statistical data for respiratory services.

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) is a pan-Canadian, not-for-profit organization working to improve the health of Canadians and the health system by providing quality, reliable and timely information. Established by Canada's health ministers in 1994, CIHI develops and coordinates a common approach for health information in Canada.

One of CIHI's key activities is to develop standards, such as the *Standards for Management Information Systems in Canadian Health Service Organizations* (MIS Standards). This document contains the national standards used for collecting and reporting financial and statistical data related to the day-to-day operations of health service organizations such as hospitals, residential care services, and home care, community health service and public health organizations. Workload measurement systems (WMS) form an integral part of the MIS Standards.

Background Information

In 2001, a national advisory group was formed to redevelop the respiratory therapy WMS. This group included experts in respiratory services from across Canada, as well as representatives from the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists and the Canadian Association of Cardio-Pulmonary Technologists. The WMS revisions that resulted from this redevelopment became effective for implementation on April 1, 2003. Whenever further revisions to the respiratory services WMS have been undertaken, a number of representatives from the professional associations and individuals active in the profession have been involved.

Over the past few years, experts in respiratory services have expressed their concerns to CIHI regarding the validity of workload data collection. In addition, members of CIHI's MIS Standards Technical Working Group have identified the need to revise the standards related to respiratory services. As such, CIHI has undertaken a 1-year project to redevelop all aspects of the MIS Standards related to respiratory services.

Project Structure and Process

An internal CIHI steering committee made up of staff consultants who are subject matter experts in the MIS Standards will oversee the project to ensure that the proposed recommendations conform to the principles of the MIS Standards.



An external Respiratory Services Working Group (RSWG) was appointed from a slate nominated by stakeholder groups. From the list of well-qualified individuals, members were selected to ensure balanced representation in terms of jurisdiction, rural/urban setting, professional association, large/small respiratory services centre and role (government/management/planner). A key responsibility of the RSWG will be to consult with and bring forward the perspectives of stakeholders.

The mandate of the RSWG is to provide advice on respiratory services related to

- Functional centres and their definitions;
- Financial and statistical accounts and their definitions;
- Broad occupational groups (classification of staff into the categories of unit-producing personnel and management and operational support personnel according to the definitions in the MIS Standards);
- Schedule of activities and procedures; and
- Service activity statistics.

The RSWG will be the main consultative group for the project. It includes the following members:

Respiratory Services Working Group Members			
Name	Affiliation	Location	Email Address
Patricia Beckham	Royal Alexandria Hospital	Edmonton, Alberta	patricia.beckham@albertahealthservices.ca
Neil Johnston	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority/ Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg	Winnipeg, Manitoba	njohnston@wrha.mb.ca
Laura Watling	West Park Healthcare Centre	Toronto, Ontario	laura.watling@westpark.org
Elizabeth Lalingo	Markham Stouffville Hospital	Markham, Ontario	elalingo@msh.on.ca
Kathy Kowalski	Horizon Health Network	Miramichi, New Brunswick	kathy.kowalski@horizonnb.ca
Jessie Cox	Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists	St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	jessie.cox@easternhealth.ca
Laura Seed	Canadian Association of Cardio-Pulmonary Technologists	Toronto, Ontario	laura.seed@sickkids.ca

The project is expected to be completed by June 2015, with the revisions to be included in the MIS Standards 2016. This version of the MIS Standards will come into effect on April 1, 2016.

Get Involved

Your contribution to the success of this project is greatly valued. If you have any questions, comments or feedback about the project, please communicate with any member of the RSWG, your [provincial/territorial MIS coordinator](#), and/or the MIS project team directly at rsmis@cihi.ca.

The next article on the MIS Respiratory Services Redevelopment Project will cover important information about MIS data use: what data is generated with the MIS Standards, who uses the data and how.