Exploring PHC EMR data and its impact on population clinical profiles

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Inputs 🕤



Outputs



Hospital care



Ambulatory care



Residential care



Community care



Comprehensive clinical profile

Information on 226 health conditions, the associated health profile group and functional status



Predictive indicators

- Cost weights
- Number of primary care visits
- Number of emergency department visits
- Probability of admission to long-term care
- Risk of hospitalization for pneumonia

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Project goal

- Multiple data sources are used to create clinical profiles in POP Grouper, to what extent does adding PHC EMR data improve population clinical profiles?
- To explore effect of client-level Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) on POP Grouper cost models



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Population data in POP Grouper



- Population (*n=14,987,397*): Ontario residents eligible for public funded health services in FY2015/16 and FY2016/17 (i.e., 2-year window to build POP clinical profiles)
- Clinical data: inpatient stays, day surgeries, ED visits, primary care physician visits, long-term care (LTC) and home care services in the same 2-year window
- **Cost data**: inpatient stays, day surgeries, ED visits, primary care physician visits and LTC services in the same 2-year window and 1 year into future



PHC EMR data to be explored



Alliance for Healthier Communities Alliance pour des communautés en santé



Canadian Institute for Health Information Better data. Better decisions. Healthier Canadians.

- PHC EMR data is collected from the 73 Community Health Centres (CHCs) in Ontario, which are not-for-profit, interprofessional, community-based primary health care organizations partnered with the *Alliance for Healthier Communities*
- Data covers client-level demographic, administrative, service, clinical, and SDOH information
- Diagnostic information available via ICD-10 codes



CHC clients linked to POP Grouper

Sub-population (*n=306,899*) of Ontario residents who visited a CHC in FY2015&16 with diagnoses recorded in EMR



Source Population Grouping Methodology, *CIHI*, 2021.





Impact of adding EMR data to building clinical profiles



EMR data helps identify more health conditions (HC) for individuals



Finding:

- After adding EMR data, over 60% of CHC clients now have more health conditions in their clinical profile
- EMR data adds about 2 (43%) new HCs to individuals health profile



Adding PHC EMR data changes individuals' dominant health condition

- **37%** of CHC clients changed their dominant HC
- 84% of CHC clients with no HCs now have a dominant HC
- **60%** of CHC clients who were non-users before adding EMR data now have a dominant HC
- * Adding PHC EMR data increases CHC clients cost weight by **28%**



CHC data complements regional comparisons

	Before adding EMR			After adding EMR		
	Thunder Bay	Rainy River	Difference	Thunder Bay	Rainy River	Difference
Avg. # of HCs	3.4	3.2	0.2	3.5	3.2	0.3
Population cost weight (FY15&16)	1.21	1.29	0.08	1.25	1.29	0.04
Population cost weight (FY17)	1.08	1.13	0.05	1.12	1.13	0.01

Finding:

- After adding PHC EMR data the estimated population cost weights get closer between the 2 regions
- Adding PHC EMR data provides a more accurate picture of regional differences



Explore effect of person-level SDOH on POP Grouper predictive cost models



POP Grouper predictive cost models

Beyond predicting risk of LTC admission, number of ED and physician visits, POP Grouper also predicts healthcare costs:

Statistical models: multi-variate linear regression



- Response variable: healthcare cost (inpatient stays, day surgeries, LTC, physician visits) for 2-year studying period and 1 year into future, respectively
- Current predictors:
 - age, sex, 226 health conditions, 2-way health condition interactions, number of health conditions, LTC ADL score



Adding CHC SDOH as predictors to POP Grouper cost models

SDOH	Response rate	Risk factor	
Language	98%	Speaking non-official language (EN, FR), 2%	
Education level	64%	Below post secondary, 54%	
Household composition (e.g., single parent, parents w/wo children, extended family, sole member)	65%	Living alone, 22%	
Household income	60%	Low income (Statistics Canada Low Income Measure including family size) , 68%	
Racial/ethnic group	20%	Not white (north American/European white), 40%	

Work to date and key preliminary findings

- Tested each of the 5 SDOH measures independently
- While some individual SDOH variables are significant in the regression models, their impact to the overall performance of the model is marginal (e.g., slight increase in R², less bias in selected models)
 - Education and household income seemed to be significant when predicting for 2-year studying period and 1 year into future
 - Language and household composition seemed to be significant when predicting 1 year into future
 - Racial/ethnic group seemed to be insignificant for either period
- Work to understand the full impact once SDOH variables are combined within the model are still underway





Project summary

- It is feasible to incorporate the PHC EMR data into the POP Grouper
- The PHC EMR data complements individuals health data thus enhances their clinical profiles by providing a more complete and accurate picture of their needs



- The PHC EMR data could help to enhance resource and service planning by identifying individuals health needs that were not captured elsewhere
- The SDOH information adds valuable sociodemographic aspect to the clinically focused POP Grouper. The study will continue to be refined as more SDOH data becomes available to CIHI







