

The Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network (CPCSSN) stakeholder communication release May 4, 2015

CPCSSN Marks Major Achievements as Part of Transition

The successful working relationship between the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has resulted in the development and advancement of the Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network (CPCSSN). Together, the collaboration resulted in three consecutive Contribution Agreements with the project titled “Enhanced Surveillance for Chronic Disease Program.”

The project success is also due to in-kind support provided by the regional networks and partner universities as well as CFPC, and continues to expand its reach to provide increased capacity in the following areas:

1. Primary care practice electronic Medical Record (eMR)-based patient health information collection
2. Research and knowledge development
3. Point of care practice transformation

The CFPC has been CPCSSN's founding partner and supporter since 2008. Effective April 1, 2015, the operation and continued development of the CPCSSN will transfer from the CFPC to Queen's University. The primary responsibility for CPCSSN's national database and administrative matters will move to the Queen's University Centre for Studies in Primary Care (CSPC). The CFPC will continue to be involved as a significant stakeholder.

CPCSSN is pleased to highlight its major achievements in primary health care research innovation as of March 31, 2015:

- ✓ The CPCSSN central repository at Queen's University securely holds patient health data from electronic medical records (EMR) from 11 primary care practice-based research networks (PBRNs) in seven provinces and the Northwest Territories;
- ✓ Network directors of each of the 11 PBRNs form the CPCSSN governance team
- ✓ anonymized data represents ~1 million patients and nearly1000 participating health care providers across 130 clinic sites
- ✓ CPCSSN data mangers have extracted data from at least 13 different EMRs over the past eight years
- ✓ >300,000 patients have been identified in the database as having 1 or more of the following chronic conditions:
 - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
 - Dementia
 - Diabetes
 - Depression
 - Epilepsy
 - Hypertension
 - Osteoarthritis
 - Parkinsonism
- ✓ CPCSSN knowledge translation (KT) efforts have yielded 32 journal-based publications, 89 posters and 140 presentations at various multidisciplinary health conferences since its inception in April 2008

- ✓ CPCSSN's Surveillance and Research sub-Committee approved 72 research projects through data transfer agreements with researchers across Canada; some include linkage studies with prescribed entities such the Newfoundland-Labrador Centre for Health Information, Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences in Ontario and the Manitoba Centre for Health Research
- ✓ CPCSSN's Privacy and Ethics Committee succeeded in accomplishing baseline Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) between 2011 and 2013 and continue to renew their local Research Ethics Board (REBs) applications annually for approval of any changes in data collection and use. The Central Repository (CR) operations have successfully undergone two separate threat risk assessments (TRAs) during Phase III operations. CPCSSN was awarded the Privacy Innovation Award from the International Association of Privacy Professionals in 2013.
- ✓ Proprietary software applications have been developed in order to extract, load, and securely transfer data; a practice feedback software application called the Data Presentation Tool (DPT) was also developed and will undergo further evaluation.

CPCSSN also received funding from Canada Health Infoway for enhanced integrated software application testing for more meaningful use of eMRs within Ontario sites and CPCSSN sentinels in Alberta have formally participated in the Physician Learning Programme. Testimonials from CPCSSN practitioners make it clear that CPCSSN offers patient data feedback that brings significant meaningful use to their work with EMRs within every PBRN.

Going forward, CPCSSN will continue to focus on chronic disease surveillance using EMR data, research and development of new knowledge, and primary care practice transformation through the use of data to improve care for patients. To view the 2015 CPCSSN Prospectus, "making a difference where health matters", please go to:

http://cpcssn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CPCSSN_ProspectusVersion_Jan14-2015.pdf

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