

Appendix

A. Brief description of data sources

Adapted with permission from:

Bjerre L, Ramsay T, Cahir C et al. Assessing potentially inappropriate prescribing (PIP) and predicting patient outcomes in Ontario's older population: a population-based cohort study applying subsets of the STOPP/START and Beers' criteria in large health administrative databases. *BMJ Open*. 2015;5(e010156).

Ontario Drug Benefits Claims Database (ODBD). The Ontario Drug Benefit program provides drug benefits for all Ontario residents aged 65 and older and those with disability/social assistance benefits. The ODBD contains a number of data related to prescription drugs, including drug identification number (DIN), quantity of drugs provided, number of days supplied (which can be used to compute the daily dose), itemized cost, dispensing fee, long-term care indicators, the plan affiliated with the prescription (e.g. Seniors, Trillium, Ontario Works etc.), the date the drug was dispensed, and patient and prescriber identifiers (encrypted). Additionally, ICES maintains a list linking DINs to their associated drug and product names, subclass information, pharmacologic-therapeutic classification group (PCG) codes, drug strength, route of administration, and first and last dispensing dates from the ODB.[1]

Discharge Abstract Database (DAD). The DAD captures all acute care hospitalizations in Ontario dating back to 1988. Each row in the DAD records demographic, diagnostic, procedural, and treatment information for a given hospitalization. [1]

Same Day Surgery Database (SDS). The SDS contains patient-level data for day surgery institutions in Ontario. Every record corresponds to one same-day surgery or procedure stay. [1]

National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS). The NACRS captures all visits to hospital EDs beginning in 2002. As with the DAD, each row of the NACRS contains demographic, diagnostic, procedural, and treatment information for each emergency room visit [35]. [1]

Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) database. The OHIP database captures health services billing claims paid by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan to providers. Each row in the OHIP database records the patient, provider, and diagnosis/procedure being claimed for remuneration. [1]

Birth date and death date of every individual eligible for Ontario health service will be obtained from the *Registered Persons Database (RPDB)*. [1]

1. Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences. ICES Data Dictionary [Internet]. 2016. Available from: <https://datadictionary.ices.on.ca/Applications/DataDictionary/Default.aspx>