



Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network
Réseau canadien de surveillance sentinelle en soins primaires

A Primary Care Data Resource and QI Tool

The Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network (CPCSSN) allows clinicians, researchers, and policy makers to create knowledge from electronic medical record (EMR) data collected in family physician offices.

CPCSSN allows family physicians and other health professionals to monitor and examine their own practice—including tracking active patients and optimizing the management of chronic diseases. As a tool for clinical practice quality improvement (QI), CPCSSN can aid physicians in implementing guideline-based care to improve patient outcomes.

CPCSSN securely collects anonymous health information from EMRs of participating primary care clinicians (e.g. family physicians and nurse practitioners) who are referred to as ‘sentinels.’ This work allows researchers, policy makers, and clinicians to better understand practice efficiencies and to address gaps in primary health care across Canada.

CPCSSN facts at-a-glance

- 11 primary care research networks in 8 provinces and 1 territory.
- Over 80 providers and 105,000 patients in BC.
- Supports 4 EMR systems in BC (OSCAR, Wolf, Med Access, Intrahealth Profile).
- Validated case-detection algorithms for 11 chronic conditions (e.g. depression, diabetes, osteoarthritis) with more in development.

Benefits for clinicians

- Improve your understanding of your patient population and their health using reliable data. Through the QI tools, access a variety of health indicators such as blood pressure, medications, vaccination records, lab results, and chronic disease prevalence.
- Compare your patient and practice details to other clinicians at your clinic, health network, and across the province in a manner that maintains patient confidentiality and privacy.
- Facilitate opportunities for independent reflection on practice and collaborative discussions with colleagues.
- Implement practice QI initiatives for improved patient outcomes. For example, screen for diabetic patients who have not had a foot exam in the previous year.

Privacy and security are CPCSSN priorities

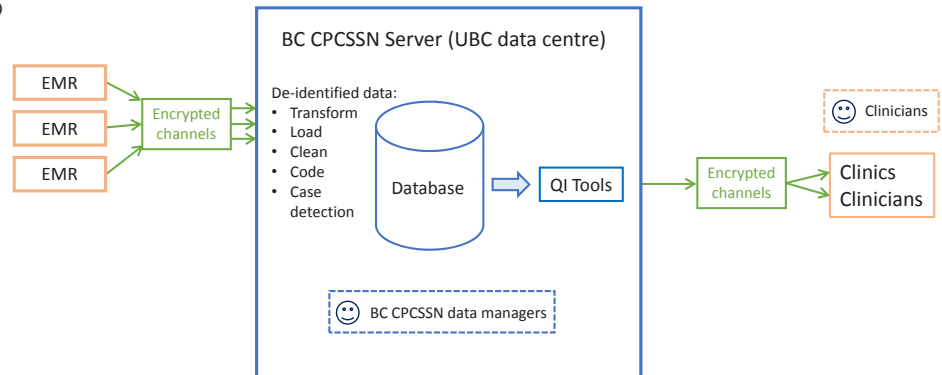
- No patient identifiers are extracted from your EMR.
- Compliant with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Information Protection Act*.
- During data transfer, both the information itself and the channels through which it travels are encrypted.
- Data are merged and stored in a highly secure university data centre.
- Process approved by UBC Office of Research Ethics and Health Canada Research Ethics Board.
- Awarded 2013 International Association of Privacy Professionals Privacy Innovation Award.

“The reports allow me to have a better sense of what is happening in my practice and to respond in a timely way.”

DR. GINETTA SALVALAGGIO,
PARTICIPATING PHYSICIAN

Data extraction process

1. CPCSSN technology extracts de-identified patient data from the clinician's EMR.
2. Data are processed and cleaned.
3. Reliable data are returned to the clinician via QI tools.



QI tools

CPCSSN provides clinicians with rigorous quality improvement tools designed to improve patient outcomes. Access two QI tools (InQUIRE and Data Presentation Tool) to visualize your patient panel in detail:

InQUIRE: Interactive Quality Improvement Reporting Environment

- At-a-glance overview of patient panel



DPT: Data Presentation Tool

- Dashboard with summary, as well as ability to create and save reports
- Powerful, detailed search capability



Join now

Any primary care clinician using EMR technology is eligible to enroll at no cost. Enrolment is easy with the completion of a consent form and a brief questionnaire. By joining CPCSSN you will become a part of a community of clinicians committed to understanding chronic disease management and improving patient outcomes. Importantly, this is your data—only you will see your patient level information.

CPCSSN technology will not add any additional time or burden to your day-to-day patient priorities. You have the flexibility to dedicate as much time as you would like to explore your own data. After initial set up, data extraction will occur automatically and refreshed into QI tools on a cyclical basis.

For more information visit: www.spor-bcphcrn.ca/bc-cpcssn | info@spor-bcphcrn.ca