



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

## BC-CPCSSN News Spring 2019

BC-CPCSSN now extracts de-identified, patient-level data from 80 primary care providers in BC, totaling over 105,000 patients. And as promised, new diseases and conditions are continuously being added to CPCSSN. BC-CPCSSN now has a total of 11 chronic conditions, with several more in the final stages of development.

The Data Presentation Tool (DPT) is now available in BC! The DPT offers unparalleled exploration of patient data and detailed feedback capabilities, along with the ability to re-identify patients in the clinic for follow-up purposes. You will have received your login details in the email that accompanies this newsletter—please try the DPT out!

### BC-PHCRN Workshop

In March 2019, BC-CPCSSN took part in a well-attended workshop hosted by the BC Primary Health Care Research Network (BC-PHCRN), of which BC-CPCSSN is a part. The Director of BC-CPCSSN, Dr. Sabrina Wong, presented to the over 100 workshop attendees on how CPCSSN could be used to facilitate effective participation in Primary Care Networks (PCNs) at the clinician level as well as at the system level. Feedback from the workshop indicates that the attendees were interested in hearing more about BC-CPCSSN and its tools, and we are working hard to develop our next session. Stay tuned!

### DPT Diabetes Dashboard

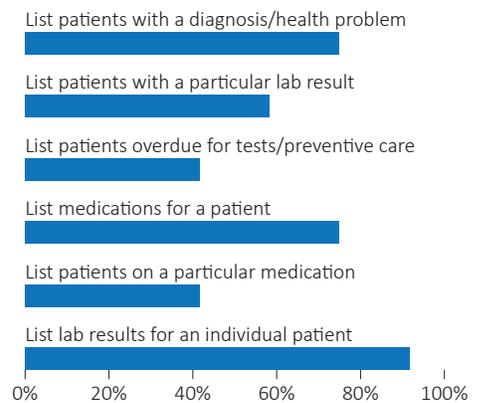
Did you know that about 12 % of diabetic patients gets referred to endocrinology from primary care?

The CPCSSN Data Presentation Tool (DPT) has a dedicated report for managing your diabetes patients. To check it out, go to the “Reports” page and click on “Diabetes Dashboard”. The dashboard will open in a new browser tab.

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### Organizational Survey

This survey gathers information about the structure and resources of your clinic. The survey is completed by a clinic manager or MOA, and allows CPCSSN to build a picture of primary care clinics in BC, identifying patterns that might help direct future efforts to enhance the quality of care in your practice and across the province.



The bars show the percentage of clinics that classified a number of typical day-to-day tasks as “easy” in their EMR system. Ideally these would all be 100%—and CPCSSN can provide tools that make these tasks easier. The DPT can create reports such as these that put this information at your fingertips.

We appreciate all your efforts in filling out this survey, and we’ll be sending out follow-up invitations to your clinic managers and MOAs.

The dashboard presents an interactive visual representation of your diabetes patients’ data. You can interact by clicking and dragging to select a group of values on a particular graph. The charts update in real time with selections. Looking at your data in this way provides a big picture view of your diabetes patients, allowing you to identify patterns and groups that you may have wondered about.



The image above shows the dashboard displaying patient data (note: not real data). At the top is basic demographic information—the distribution of patient ages, how far they live from the clinic, and the proportion of male/female/other patients. Graphs for basic exams (height, weight, BMI, blood pressure) are shown in green, with pertinent lab results shown next. At the bottom in orange are the Framingham cardiovascular risk scores, along with deprivation scores for the patients’ postal codes, calculated using Canadian Census data. The left-hand side has check boxes for filtering the graphs by co-morbidities and medications. It’s a convenient way to see how many other health conditions your diabetes patient suffer with.

**Tips for using the filters:** click once to include only those patients; click again to exclude those patients; click again to clear the selection or click the ‘x’ in the “Filters” box in the top left corner.

We hope you’ll try out the dashboard, and we’d love to hear feedback!

## CPCSSN and Frailty

The research partnership between the Canadian Frailty Network (CFN) and CPCSSN aims to enhance the care of frail elderly people in primary care settings.

Using machine learning, we aim to use clinicians’ assessments of their >65 patient panel to identify possible sources of improvement for frailty case definitions. This work is key in providing primary care practitioners with a standard tool embedded in their EMRs to help them identify frailty early on in their patients’ health trajectories, and thus intervene to support healthy aging.

## The BC-CPCSSN Team

The team is situated within the BC Primary Health Care Research Network (BC-PHCRN), physically located at UBC in Vancouver. BC-PHCRN recently welcomed a new Network Manager, Allison Ezzat (replacing Alex Warren). Allison, Data Managers Andy Gibb and Don White, and Director Sabrina Wong welcome your comments and feedback on the work of BC-CPCSSN!

**For more information or to join CPCSSN**

Visit [www.spor-bcphcrn.ca/bc-cpcssn](http://www.spor-bcphcrn.ca/bc-cpcssn) or email [info@spor-bcphcrn.ca](mailto:info@spor-bcphcrn.ca)