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Access to routinely collected data for population health research

Experiences in Canada and Australia

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Published in: Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health

DOI: 10.1111/1753-6405.12813 10.1111/1753-6405.12813

Published: 01/10/2018

Document Version: Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Link to publication in Bond University research repository.

Recommended citation(APA):

Henry, D., Stehlik, P., Camacho, X., & Pearson, S. A. (2018). Access to routinely collected data for population health research: Experiences in Canada and Australia. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, *42*(5), 430-433. https://doi.org/10.1111/1753-6405.12813, https://doi.org/10.1111/1753-6405.12813

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Appendix 1: Examples of published studies that used routinely collected data in Manitoba and Ontario¹

Population/ Public Health

- Measuring burden of unhealthy behaviours using a multivariable predictive approach: life expectancy lost in Canada attributable to smoking, alcohol, physical inactivity, and diet.
- Relationship among body fat percentage, body mass index, and all-cause mortality: A cohort study.
- Potential cost-effectiveness of supervised injection facilities in Toronto and Ottawa, Canada.

• The early benefits of human papillomavirus vaccination on cervical dysplasia and anogenital warts. Health and social policy / health system

- Sensitivity and specificity of administrative mortality data for identifying prescription opioid-related deaths.
- A 3-year study of high-cost users of health care.

Primary Care

- Primary care practice reports: administrative data profiles for identifying and prioritizing areas for quality improvement.
- Using the electronic medical record to identify patients at high risk for frequent emergency department visits and high system costs.

Methods

- Estimating multimorbidity prevalence with the Canadian Chronic Disease Surveillance System.
- Multilevel survival analysis: methods, models and applications.

Mental health

- Risk of suicide after a concussion.
- An early intervention for psychosis and its effect on criminal accusations and suicidal behavior using a matched-cohort design.

Pharmacoepidemiology

- Population-based study of the drug interaction between proton pump inhibitors and clopidogrel.
- Atypical antipsychotic drugs and the risk for acute kidney injury and other adverse outcomes in older adults: a population-based cohort study.

Surgery

- Association of frailty and 1-year postoperative mortality following major elective noncardiac surgery: a population-based cohort study.
- Higher surgeon and hospital volume improves long-term survival after radical cystectomy.
- The influence of incidental abdominal aortic aneurysm monitoring on patient outcomes.

Pregnancy / early childhood

- Survival and surgical interventions for children with Trisomy 13 and 18.
- A multimodal intervention for children with ADHD reduces inequity in health and education outcomes.

• Severe maternal morbidity associated with maternal birthplace: A population-based register study. Cardiology

- Long-term clinical outcomes and predictors for survivors of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest.
- Associations between short or long length of stay with 30-day readmission and mortality in hospitalized patients with heart failure.
- The CANHEART health index: a tool for monitoring the cardiovascular health of the Canadian population.

Cancer/ Screening

- Access, excess and overdiagnosis: the increasing incidence of thyroid cancer.
- Association between prognosis and tumor laterality in early-stage colon cancer.

¹ Further details of these studies including references are available from the authors