Sharing information about rates of attachment to primary care with the public: working with patients to coproduce visuals using the Primary Care Data Reports (PCDR)





Maggie MacNeil, PhD¹ & Joan Barker, M.A., M.S.W.² on behalf of PERC (Patient Expertise in Research Collaboration)

¹School of Nursing, McMaster University, ²PERC Advisory Board

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Background

- PERC (Patient Expertise in Research Collaboration) is a group of patient advisors aiming to promote patient-oriented primary health care research in Ontario and beyond.
- PERC is an INSPIRE-PHC affiliated and Ontario SPOR Support Unit(OSSU)-funded centre, led by Dr. Rebecca Ganann, School of Nursing, McMaster University.
- Rationale: Patient expertise can inform how primary care data are conveyed to the public, contributing to data-driven, yet understandable, resource on primary care.
- PERC received Applied Health Research Question (AHRQ) funding to create patientcentred visualizations of Primary Care Data Report Data.









Data source: Primary Care Data Reports

- PCDR provide an understanding of the population attributed to each Ontario Health Team [OHT], including how attributed patients engage with primary care.
- Types of data contained in PCDR:



age, sex, income



Health care use (emergency department visits, hospitalizations)



health status (chronic disease[s])



visits with family doctor

available from:

PERC
Patient Expertise in Research Collaboration

Background: Strengths and limitations of PCDR

Data include:

- Over 13 million Ontarians
- 98% of ON population
- 99% of PHC providers

Data **do not** include people('s):

- without valid Ontario health card
- seen by nurse practitioner not affiliated with FHT
- receiving community paramedicine
- living in long-term care
- who identify as First Nations living on a reserve
- race, gender



Background

Defining Attachment in the Primary Care Data Reports



Attached patients either:

- 1. Receive care from a family doctor;
- 2. Receive care from a Community Health Centre;
- 3. Repeatedly see the same pediatrician (children); or
- 4. Repeatedly visit a walk-in style provider



Uncertainly attached patients either:

- Only sought health care by visiting the emergency department e.g., following an accident; or
- 2. Received primary care from an inconsistent source e.g., someone who visited multiple walk-in style clinics

Approach: Participatory design

(Spinuzzi, 2005)

Stage	Aim	Activities				
Initial exploration of work [meeting 1]	Learn how 'users' conceive status quo	 partnership development orienting team members; defining key terms: e.g., attachment 				
Discovery processes [meetings 2-3]	Cooperatively make meaning of the work, clarify goals and values	 understanding priorities/parts of the data to highlight (for patients, OHT partners, clinicians) clarify values, goals of project refine the audience and scope of work sharing preliminary findings (GHHN/ON comparison) 				
Prototyping [meetings 3-4]	Iteratively shape outputs, using mock ups	 sharing mock up visuals walking members through drafts (using virtual break out groups) to: identify aesthetic infographic design features, co-create key messages, and consider/agree on dissemination strategy 				



Approach: April 2022- April 2023

- GHHN Partnership development, understanding priorities
- Orienting new members
- Background, context-setting: PCDR, attachment

April- August 2022

January 2023

- Sharing preliminary results (GHHN/ON comparison)
- GHHN Primary Care Leadership Group presentation
- Liaise with graphic designer to mock up draft visual

- Provincial PCDR update
- Liaise with graphic designer to revise draft visual
- Draft visual shared with INSPIRE-PHC
- Draft visual shared Ministry colleagues

February 2023

March/April 2023

- Liaise with graphic designer, communications staff to revise draft visual
- Discuss dissemination strategy w/ partners



Results: What we heard

Patient Advisors	PHC Clinicians/Staff
 Attachment & <u>related concepts</u> (quality/continuity of care, access, impact of attachment, PHC/provider/impact, comorbidity, sex/gender, billing codes) 	Welcome good quality primary care data to <u>guide local decision-making</u>
	 Don't lose sight of the goal of
 Importance of <u>health equity</u> data, be open about what PCDR data can/can't tell us 	' <u>Attachment for all'</u>
	 How PCDR <u>data will drive policy</u>
 Include <u>actions uncertainly attached</u> 	
patients can take	 PCDR data as <u>public-facing</u>
	measure of attachment-access
Highlight benefits/risks of	may worsen before it improves
uncertain/attachment with careful	
framing: ↓ individual responsibility	



Results- Next Steps

Comparing Greater Hamilton Health Network & Ontario: Attachment to primary care

GHHN 614,818 total patients

attached

8% uncertainly attached (49,338 patients)



ONTARIO

total patients

uncertainly attached (1,778,022 patients)

Differences between most and least attached patients

Primary Care Data Reports (PCDR) consider a patient 'attached' if they received most of their care from a family doctor or nurse practitioner.

	Greater Hamilto	n Health Network	Ontario	
	Attached to primary care provider	Inconsistent primary care provider	Attached to primary care provider	Inconsistent primary care provider
Number	565,480 people	25,433 people	12,854,553 people	631,553 people
Average age	41 years old	45 years old	41 years old	45 years old
Sex	49% male	53% male	48% male	53% male
Low income ^a	21%	27%	19%	26%
New to Ontario ^b	6%	14%	8%	18%
Visible minority ^c	13%	20%	29%	33%
Housing instability ^d	18%	27%	21%	30%
Mental health diagnosis	20%	27%	20%	26%

- Knowledge mobilization
 - Conferences: Canadian Association on Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR); North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG)
 - Knowledge user presentations: GHHN Engagement Community of Practice; GHHN Primary Care Leadership Group
- Developing explainer video



Scan to see full visuals





Key Messages

- Patient advisors have an important role to play prioritizing PCDR data, crafting key messages and ensuring knowledge products are oriented to the public.
- The PCDR provide a deeper understanding of an OHT's attributed population, as it relates to PHC delivery.
- We will continue to promote the centering of lived experience (through patient engagement) as an important component to discussions about attachment to primary care locally and provincially.



Thank you!

- macnem18@mcmaster.ca
- ⊠ <u>perc@mcmaster.ca</u>
- <u>https://perc-phc.mcmaster.ca/</u>
- ▼ @PHC_PERC

