Your Health System: In Depth

Overall Results Matrix Methodology

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Overall Results

Figure Sample Overall Results matrix

Background

The purpose of the Overall Results matrix (see the figure above) is to provide a visual snapshot of results for indicators in Your Health System: In Depth at 2 levels: organizational (long-term care facility, long-term care corporation, or hospital with long-term care and/or acute care services) and regional. Indicators in the matrix are categorized into 3 high-level categories: those that are generally considered above average performance for comparison and trend over time (green with 2 triangles), those generally considered to be the same as average performance (blue with a bowtie shape) and those that are generally considered below average performance (pink with a single triangle).

Interpreting Overall Results

Vertical assignment is determined based on the indicator's result relative to that of a comparator. For hospital results, the comparator is the peer group average. For long-term care organizations and health regions, the comparator is the national average.

Horizontal assignment is based on the indicator's trend over time using the most recent 3 years of data for lead indicators and the most recent 5 to 10 years of data for lag indicators. The directionality of the indicator must be considered when interpreting the matrix. Depending on the indicator, a higher result or increasing trend may represent desirable or less desirable results. For example:

- If a higher result is more desirable for the indicator (e.g., Life Expectancy) and the result is significantly higher than the Canadian or peer group average and the indicator result has been increasing over time, the result is assigned to the upper-right green square with 2 triangles — Generally considered above average performance.
- If a higher result is less desirable for the indicator (e.g., Restraint Use in Long-Term Care) and the result is significantly higher than the Canadian or peer group average and the indicator result has been increasing over time, the result is assigned to the lower-left pink square with a single triangle — Generally considered below average performance.
- If a result is not significantly different from the Canadian or peer group average and has not changed significantly over time, the result is assigned to the central blue square with a bowtie shape — Generally considered same as average performance.

Methodology

Vertical axis: Comparisons

Confidence intervals are used where possible to establish whether the indicator result is statistically above the average, below the average or the same as the average. For indicators without confidence intervals, such as emergency department wait time indicators, colour-coding is assigned based on the indicator value relative to the 20th and 80th percentiles of indicator values for all hospitals.

For hospital-level results, the peer group average is used instead of the national average. For indicators without confidence intervals, the 20th and 80th percentiles of the indicator values of hospitals within the peer group are used.

Horizontal axis: Trend over time

Horizontal assignment is based on the indicator's trend over time. Trend over time is assessed using logistic regression for directional indicators, which are reported as crude, risk-adjusted or age/sex standardized rates. The direction of the trend is determined by the significance and sign of the regression coefficient estimate. Depending on the indicator, an increasing trend may be more or less desirable. Therefore, the directionality of the indicator must be considered when interpreting the results.

More detailed information on the trend analysis methodology is described in the relevant sections of *Identifying Indicator Top Results and Trends — Methodology Notes*.

Indicators included in Overall Results

Since at least 3 consecutive years of data are required for the trend analysis methodology, indicators without 3 or more consecutive years of available data are not included in the Overall Results section. Additionally, non-directional indicators and newly developed indicators are not included in Overall Results.

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