The Agency’s role in Public Health Surveillance and the Surveillance of Children and Adults with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities

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Presentation

- Public Health Agency’s role in public health surveillance
- Partners involved in monitoring health status
- New Developmental Disorders Surveillance Program
- Overview of new national surveys
PHAC’s role in public health surveillance

The Agency’s 6 core functions public health functions:

1. Public health surveillance
2. population health assessment
3. disease and injury prevention
4. health promotion
5. health protection
6. emergency preparedness and response.
Core Surveillance Areas

- Adult chronic disease surveillance (e.g. cancer, arthritis, diabetes, respiratory, mental illness, cardiovascular, risk factors)
- Maternal and child surveillance systems (e.g. injury, abuse, perinatal, diseases and NEW developmental disorders)
- Infectious and zoonotic disease surveillance and immunization (e.g. HIV, Influenza, hepatitis, hospital-acquired infections)
- PHAC operates world-class laboratories to support national surveillance capacity.

Federal Partnerships (governance and data collection and analysis)

- the Pan-Canadian Public Health Network (PHN) and its structures
- Statistics Canada and CIHI and other national and international partners
Effective surveillance requires the development of active networks at many levels that are interconnected for coordinated response.

**Community**
- Clinicians
- Health Unit
- Hospitals
- Laboratory
- Schools
- Referral Networks
- Other service providers

**Service Providers**
- Health Ministries
- Laboratories
- Education Ministries
- Social Service Ministries
- Professional Associations
- University Research Networks
- Data: Physician billing data
- Service utilization data
- Cross sectional studies

**Government Departments & Agencies**
- Health Canada
- Public Health Agency
- Human Resource Skills and Development Canada
- Statistics Canada
- Canadian Institutes for Health Research

**International Agencies**
- International (WHO/PAHO)
- National Governments

**Provinces & Territories**
- 13 Provinces
- & Territories

**Local**

**National**

**International**

**Other collectors of health-related data**
Partners in Health Surveillance

The responsibility for health service provision lies with the provinces and territories, surveillance is a joint responsibility with PHAC

13 Provinces & Territories

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DATA: Physician billing data
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Other collectors of health-related data

International

Local

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International

Partners in Health Surveillance

International

Agencies (WHO/PAHO)
- National Governments

Local

Other collectors of health-related data

International

Partners in Health Surveillance

International
Partners in Health Surveillance

Service provision to persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities is a shared responsibility between federal/provincial & territorial governments.

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**DATA:**
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**NATIONAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES**

- **Health Canada:** Oversight and Coordination
- **Public Health Agency:** Surveillance
- **Neurological Conditions (14 conditions):** Developmental Disorders Surveillance

- **Human Resources and Skills Development Canada:** Provides services to people with disabilities
- **Statistics Canada:** National population-based surveys in cooperation with other Departments
- **Canadian Institutes for Health Research:** Provides funding for research
**NEW Developmental Disorders Surveillance**

**Year 1:**
- Environmental scan of existing initiatives nationally and internationally;
- Create an advisory committee of experts to guide the development of standard case definition(s) and a national surveillance plan prioritizing Autism Spectrum Disorders;
- Build partnerships and surveillance capacity through pilot projects

**Years 2-3:**
- Develop and implement sentinel surveillance centres across the country

**Year 4 +:**
- Expand surveillance to other disorders and age groups (including intellectual disabilities in adults)
New Joint Surveys with Statistics Canada

Community Health Survey (CCHS)
- 2 year rolling cycle
- Piloting a survey to describe population of residents of long-term care facilities

Standard Disability Screening Module (under development) (Human Resource Skills and Development Canada)
- to assess underlying level of disability in adults (+15)
- To replace Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS)
- Will be added to ongoing national surveys (CCHS)
- Discussions on expanding to include children
Questions

Biggest data needs?
• Accurate assessments of prevalence (and incidence),
• health status and
• access to services

How has data on intellectual disabilities informed policy?
• At the Agency the need for data has informed policy to improve surveillance

Government research partnerships? …..

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