Self-Injury Hospitalization

**Name**
Self-Injury Hospitalization

**Short/Other Names**
Not applicable

**Description**
Age-standardized rate of hospitalization in a general hospital due to self-injury, per 100,000 population.

For further details, please see the General Methodology Notes.

Lower rates are desirable.

Using the available data sources, capturing intention is difficult. This indicator cannot distinguish whether or not the self-injury was intended to result in death (self-harming or suicidal behaviour). In addition, this indicator might provide biased estimates of the true number of hospitalizations for self-injury, due to the manner in which intent is captured in the data sources available. For example, poisoning can be coded as "unintentional"—an overdose—or "undetermined"—reflecting an uncertainty between unintentional and intentional motives. Neither unintentional nor undetermined injuries were included in this indicator, even though it is assumed that a small number of these cases were, in fact, intentional.

**HSP Framework Dimension**
Health System Outcomes: Improve health status of Canadians

**Areas of Need**
Not applicable

**Geographic Coverage**
All provinces/territories

**Reporting Level/Disaggregation**
National, Province/Territory, Region, Neighbourhood Income Quintile

**Indicator Results**
Accessing Indicator Results on Your Health System: In Depth

**Identifying Information**

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**Indicator Description and Calculation**

**Description**
Age-standardized rate of hospitalization in a general hospital due to self-injury, per 100,000 population.

For further details, please see the General Methodology Notes.

(Total number of discharges for a self-injury for patients age 15 and older + Total mid-year population age 15 and older) × 100,000 (age-adjusted)

**Calculation:**

- **Description:**
  - Total mid-year population age 15 and older

- **Inclusions:**
  - Admission to an acute care institution (Facility Type Code = 1)
  - Self-injury is identified by the following external cause of injury codes with a diagnosis type of 9: ICD-10-CA X60–X84
  - Age at admission 15 years and older

- **Exclusions:**
  - Cadaveric donor or stillbirth records (Admission Category Code = R or S)

**Background, Interpretation and Benchmarks**

Self-injury is defined as a deliberate bodily injury that may or may not result in death. This type of injury is the result of either suicidal or self-harming behaviours, or both. Self-injury can be prevented, in many cases, by early recognition, intervention and treatment of mental illnesses. While some risk factors for self-injury are beyond the control of the health system, high rates of self-injury hospitalization can be interpreted as the result of a failure of the system to prevent self-injuries that are severe enough to require hospitalization.
Lower rates are desirable.

Using the available data sources, capturing intention is difficult. This indicator cannot distinguish whether or not the self-injury was intended to result in death (self-harming or suicidal behaviour). In addition, this indicator might provide biased estimates of the true number of hospitalizations for self-injury, due to the manner in which intent is captured in the data sources available. For example, poisoning can be coded as “unintentional”—an overdose—or “undetermined”—reflecting an uncertainty between unintentional and intentional motives. Neither unintentional nor undetermined injuries were included in this indicator, even though it is assumed that a small number of these cases were, in fact, intentional.

HSP Framework Dimension
Health System Outcomes: Improve health status of Canadians

Areas of Need
Not applicable

Targets/Benchmarks
Not applicable

References

Availability of Data Sources and Results

Data Sources
DAD, HMDB, NACRS, OMHRS

Type of Year: Fiscal

First Available Year:
2010

Last Available Year:
2017

Geographic Coverage
All provinces/territories

Reporting Level/Disaggregation
National, Province/Territory, Region, Neighbourhood Income Quintile

Update Frequency
Every year

Web Tool:
Your Health System: In Depth

URL:
Accessing Indicator Results on Your Health System: In Depth

Not applicable

Quality Statement

Caveats and Limitations

This indicator does not include cases of self-injury involving outpatient treatment in hospital emergency departments or other medical facilities or completed suicide prior to hospital admission. Thus this indicator cannot be used to estimate the prevalence of self-injury in the general population. Also not included are patients who were institutionalized in a psychiatric hospital and were self-injured during their stay but did not require admission to a general hospital. For a broader estimate of self-injury, please refer to the In Focus section of Health Indicators 2012.

Weyburn Mental Health Centre in Saskatchewan is not included in all mental health–related indicators as requested by the facility. As a result, rates for Sun Country Health Region (4701) in 2009 are not comparable with those reported in subsequent years.

Brant Community Healthcare System: Brantford General Hospital did not submit its 2009–2010 data to the Ontario Mental Health Reporting System as of the reporting deadline; therefore, it is not included in the indicator calculation. Rates for North East Local Health Integration Network (3513) are not comparable with those reported in subsequent years.

The following cases of self-injury are not included in this indicator:

1. Cases of self-injury involving outpatient treatment in hospital emergency departments or other medical facilities, or completed suicide prior to hospital admission

2. Patients who were institutionalized in a psychiatric hospital and were self-injured during their stay but did not require admission to a general hospital

Indicator results are also available in

—The Health Indicators e-Publication (http://yourhealthsystem.cihi.ca /epub/?language=en); data is updated annually starting from 2010–2011.