

COMMUNIQUÉ

Topic: Clarification regarding the goals for Rehabilitation Intensity data collection reporting in Ontario

Purpose:

Provide clarification regarding the goals for Rehabilitation Intensity (RI) data collection reporting in Ontario.

Background:

The Ontario Stroke Network (OSN) issued a communication on November 11th 2014 regarding plans for the implementation of RI data collection within the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) – National Rehabilitation Reporting System (NRS) commencing April 1st, 2015. In follow-up to this communication the OSN has received inquiries regarding the intention of the data collection, the Stroke Quality Based Procedures (QBP) [Clinical Handbook](#) (page 97) best practice recommendation targeting three hours of therapy/day¹ and whether there are any implications for funding.

Clarification of Objectives:

As of April 1st, 2015, mandatory reporting of rehabilitation time will be added into CIHI NRS in support of QBP implementation as directed the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MoHLTC). At this time, RI is not tied to funding or other Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) or MoHLTC accountabilities.

The objective of establishing RI reporting in NRS is to monitor progress toward the longer term goal of providing greater RI with a target of three hours of therapy per patient per day. The OSN will monitor the NRS rehabilitation time to: 1) better understand the current state of rehabilitative care; 2) consider the impact of rehabilitation intensity on system and patient outcomes; and, 3) ensure availability of RI data to support future system planning. In addition, the OSN will work with CIHI to support data quality. Organizations are encouraged to strive to deliver rehabilitation intensity as outlined in the stroke QBP guidelines to optimize recovery for persons with stroke.

Next Step:

Development and implementation of an evaluation and data quality plan.

For further information on Rehabilitation Intensity, collection, and reporting of rehabilitation time, please see the OSN's [FAQs](#) and presentations/webinars ("[Rehabilitation Intensity: Every Minute Counts](#)"), CIHI's [NRS Discussion Forum](#) or contact OSN at info@ontariostrokenetwork.ca.

¹ There is a positive relationship between scheduled therapy time and outcomes (Wang et al, 2013; Lohse et al., 2014;) and that higher intensity therapy is associated with better outcomes and reduced LOS (Jette et al., 2005).