Appendix Table 1. Variable checklist for each database

Database	Variables	Location	Definition
	Number of patients	Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of patients
	Number of ED visits per patient	Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of ED visits individually
	Sex	Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data
	Age	Table 3, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data
National Ambulatory Care	Rural/urban	Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Derived from the truncated postal code. Rural residence had "0" in the second position of the truncated postal code.
Reporting System (NACRS) ^{1,2} - Patient Level	Number of discharge diagnosis mental illness chapters	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of the ICD-10- CA ED diagnoses pertaining to mental health issues
	Number of discharge diagnosis circulatory chapters	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of the ICD-10- CA ED diagnoses pertaining circulatory issues
	Number of discharge diagnosis respiratory chapters	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of the ICD-10- CA ED diagnoses pertaining to respiratory issues
	Number of discharge diagnosis digestive chapters	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of the ICD-10- CA ED diagnoses pertaining to digestive issues
	Charlson Comorbidity Index	Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Derived from primary ED diagnosis. This index combines patients' status on 17 medical comorbidities into a score with

			predictive validity for mortality.
	Number of discharge diagnosis chapters	Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of the distinct ICD-10-CA ED diagnosis chapters
	Number of months in the year that patients visited ED	Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of the months in the year that patients visited ED
	Regularity index	Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Calculated an ED visit regularity index to characterize spacing between patients' visits over the 365-day pre-index-visit period using the following equation: 1/1+variance of visits
	Number of ED visits	Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of ED visits
	Arrive by ambulance	Table 1, Table 2, Table 3	Original data
National	Triage level	Table 1, Table 2, Table 3	Original data
Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS) ^{1,2} -Visit Level	Top 5 ICD-10-CA ED diagnosis chapters	Table 1, Table 2, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Classified primary ED diagnosis into ICD-10-CA diagnosis chapter and selected top 5.
	Top 5 ICD-10-CA ED primary diagnosis	Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Top 5 primary ED diagnosis with ICD-10-CA code
	Visit disposition	Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data
Hospitalization Characteristics (DAD) ³	Number of patients	Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of patients

		T	
	Number of admissions	Table 1, Table 2, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of admissions
	Number of admissions per patient	Table 1, Table 2, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of admissions individually
	Median time admitted (days)	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data: the total number of days the patient was hospitalized.
	Top 5 ICD-10 diagnosis chapters 1 simplified	Table 1, Table 2, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Classified the most responsible diagnosis for the patient during hospitalization into ICD-10-CA diagnosis chapter and selected top 5.
	ICD-10 main problem chapter	Table 3	responsible diagnosis for the patient during hospitalization into ICD-10-CA diagnosis chapter
	Alcohol-related diagnosis	Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Identified from the most responsible diagnosis for the patient during hospitalization based on standard in supplementary Table 1.
	Number of patients	Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of patients
Mental Health	Number of mental health admissions	Table 1, Table 2, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of mental health admissions
Hospitalization Characteristics (HMHDB) ⁴	Data source	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data: indicates the original data source for the record
	Homelessness	Table 3, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data: indicates whether a person was homeless on admission

	Age	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data
	Number of mental health admissions per patient	Table1, Table 2, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Count of mental health admissions individually
	Involuntary admissions	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data: indicates the legal status of the patient upon admission to hospital
	Length of stay at hospital (days)	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data: the total number of days the person was hospitalized.
	Diagnosis category	Table1, Table 2, Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data
	Discharge disposition	Appendix Table 5, Appendix Table 6	Original data: broad mental health category based on the most responsible separation diagnosis code
Continuing Care Reporting System (CCRS) ⁵	Number of patients	Table 3	Count of patients
Home Care Reporting System (HCRS) ⁶	Number of patients	Table 3	Count of patients

Footnote: Emergency department (ED), International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-CA).

- 1. Canadian Institute for Health Information. National Ambulatory Care Reporting System Metadata (NACRS). Ottawa, ON. Available from: www.cihi.ca/en/national-ambulatory-care-reporting-system-metadata-nacrs.
- 2. Canadian Institute for Health Information. Data Quality Documentation, National Ambulatory Care Reporting System Ottawa, ON. Available from: www.cihi.ca/sites/default/files/document/nacrs-data-quality-current-year-information-2019-2020-en.pdf
- 3. Canadian Institute for Health Information. Discharge Abstract Database Metadata (DAD). Ottawa, ON. Available from: www.cihi.ca/en/discharge-abstract-database-metadata-dad

- 4. Canadian Institute for Health Information. Hospital Mental Health Database Metadata (HMHDB). Ottawa, ON. Available from: www.cihi.ca/en/hospital-mental-health-database-metadata-hmhdb
- 5. Canadian Institute for Health Information. Continuing Care Metadata. Ottawa, ON. Available from: www.cihi.ca/en/continuing-care-metadata
- 6. Canadian Institute for Health Information. Home Care Reporting System Metadata. Ottawa, ON. Available from: www.cihi.ca/en/home-care-reporting-system-metadata

Appendix Table 2. ICD-10-CA Alcohol-related Diagnostic Codes

	CD-10-CA Alcohol-related Diagnostic Codes
ICD-10-CA Code	Description
E244	Alcohol-induced pseudo-Cushing's syndrome
E52	Niacin deficiency [pellagra]
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol
F100	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, acute intoxication
F101	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, harmful use
F102	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, dependence syndrome
F103	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, withdrawal state
F104	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, withdrawal state with delirium
F105	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, psychotic disorder
F106	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, amnesic syndrome
F107	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, residual and late- onset psychotic disorder
F108	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, other mental and behavioural disorders
F109	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, unspecified mental and behavioural disorder
G312	Degeneration of nervous system due to alcohol
G621	Alcoholic polyneuropathy
G721	Alcoholic myopathy
1426	Alcoholic cardiomyopathy
K292	Alcoholic gastritis
K70	Alcoholic liver disease
K700	Alcoholic fatty liver
K701	Alcoholic hepatitis
K702	Alcoholic fibrosis and sclerosis of liver
K703	Alcoholic cirrhosis of liver
K704	Alcoholic hepatic failure
K709	Alcoholic liver disease, unspecified
K852	Alcohol-induced acute pancreatitis
K860	Alcohol-induced chronic pancreatitis
O354	Maternal care for (suspected) damage to fetus from alcohol
R780	Finding of alcohol in blood
T510	Toxic effects of alcohol, Ethanol
X65	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to alcohol
Y15	Poisoning by and exposure to alcohol, undetermined intent
Y90	Evidence of alcohol involvement determined by blood alcohol level
Y91	Evidence of alcohol involvement determined by level of intoxication
Z040	Blood-alcohol and blood-drug test
Z714	Alcohol abuse counselling and surveillance

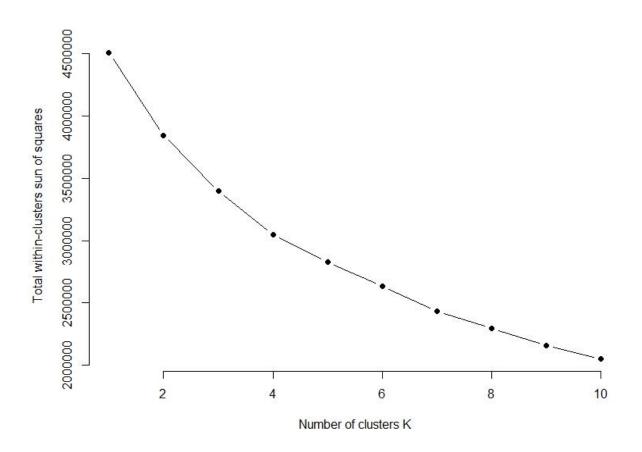
Z721 Alcohol use

Footnote: International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-CA).

Appendix Table 3. Pseudo-F Values Associated with Cluster Number Among People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Ontario.

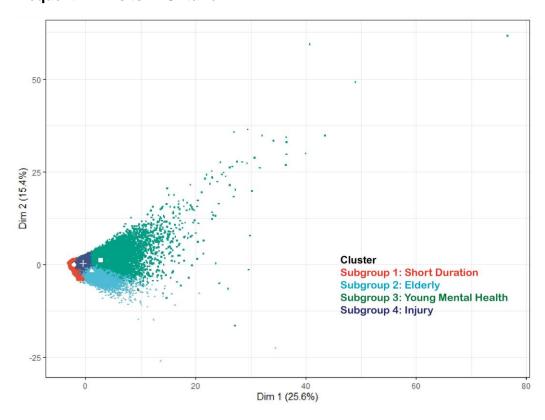
Clusters	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W	4509810	3846495	3396256	3048085	2828354	2631140	2435573	2292006	2155767	2050494
Pseudo F	Inf	77769.91	73932.8 4	72089.6	67026.4 2	64400.5 9	64011.5 4	62339.1 4	61556.3 8	60098.3 9

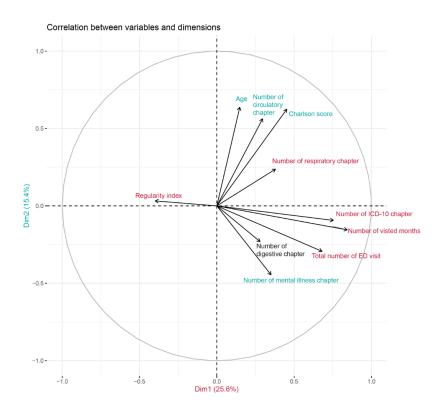
Appendix Figure 1: Elbow Plot Associated with Cluster Number Among People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Ontario.



Footnote: We chose four subgroups based on optimization of the pseudo-F statistic value, which compares between-cluster to within-cluster sum-of-squares, a visible kink in the elbow plot (seen at both two and four subgroups), and real-world meaningfulness of generated subgroups. This is an accepted approach in the literature. We used the pseudo-F test and elbow plot as a guide. However, it is well-accepted in cluster analysis to include analyst input in addition to statistical testing to interpret meaningful groups. We considered our previous analysis of British Columbia data, which identified four clinically meaningful subgroups. When we ran our cluster algorithm using the current Ontario and Alberta data, we obtained clinically sensible groupings that were similar to our British Columbia analysis when we specified four subgroups. This produced a more descriptive output than organizing our data into two groupings. We also ran our clustering algorithm specifying five subgroups, and while gaining marginally in the pseudo-F value, organizing our data into five subgroups did not add anything meaningful or actionable from a clinical perspective.

Appendix Figure 2: Graphical Representation of Subgroups of People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Ontario.



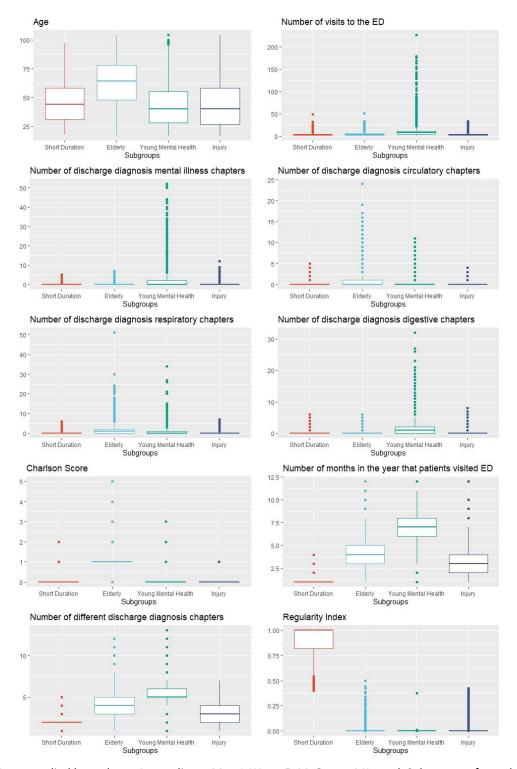


Footnote: white markers indicated the cluster mean for each group.

We were interested in a graphical representation of our subgroups, but doing so requires a reduction of the dimensionality of the data so that it can be represented on a graph. One approach to this is to apply a principal components-type analysis after clustering, and then plotting the most important variables vs. the second most important (these are Dim1 and Dim2). Supplementary Figure 2 showed clusters of samples based on their similarity. Dimension accounted for 25.6% of the information. Dimension 2 accounted for 15.4% of the information. The variation for Subgroups 2 and 3 was higher than for Subgroups 1 and 4.

The plot above suggests that number of ICD-10-CA ED discharge diagnoses pertaining to respiratory, number of distinct ICD-10-CA diagnostic chapters, number of months that the patient visited an ED, and ED visit number had strong positive effect on Dimension 1. Regularity index had a strong negative effect on Dimension 1. Age at index, Charlson comorbidity score, and number of ICD-10-CA ED discharge diagnoses pertaining to circulatory concerns had a strong positive effect on Dimension 2. Number of ICD-10-CA ED discharge diagnoses pertaining to mental health had a strong negative effect on Dimension 2.

Appendix Figure 3: Distribution Among Clustering Variables for People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Ontario

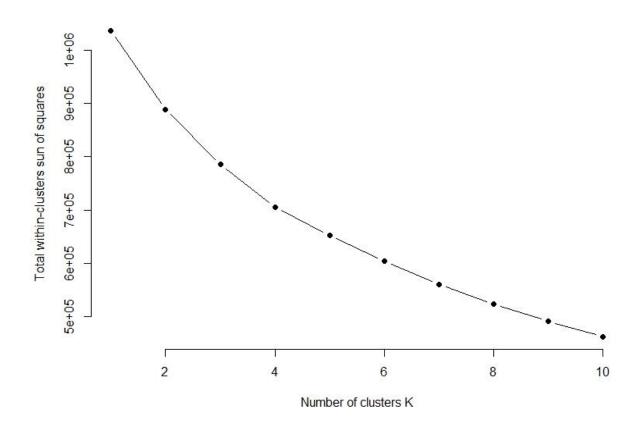


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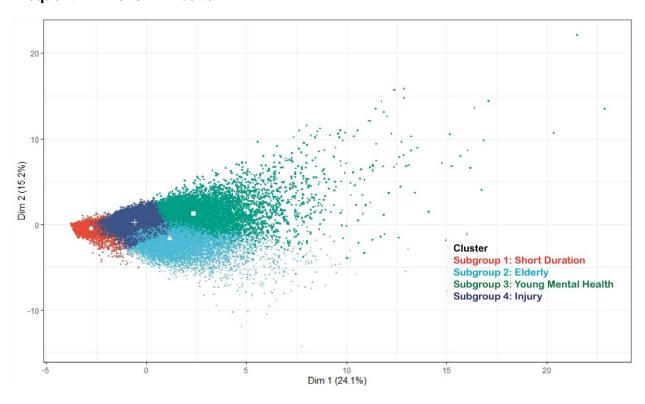
Appendix Table 4. Pseudo-F Values Associated with Cluster Number Among People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Alberta.

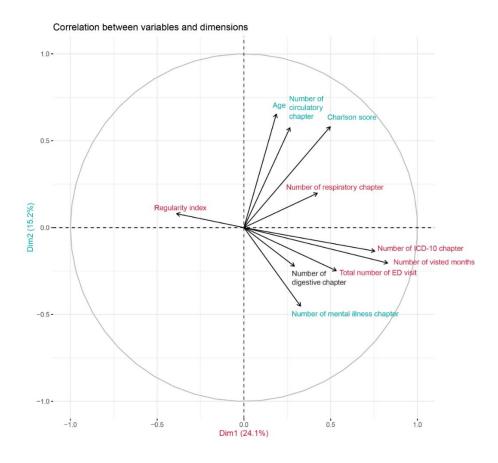
Clusters	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W	1036250	888931.5	785195. 2	705481. 5	652290. 5	603873. 4	560312. 6	523294. 8	491721. 7	462621. 5
Pseudo F	Inf	17173.12	16565.9 8	16194.5 6	15248.6 7	14838.4 9	14669.2 4	14510.0 9	14343.0 7	14275.4 3

Appendix Figure 4: Elbow Plot Associated with Cluster Number Among People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Alberta.



Appendix Figure 5: Graphical Representation of Subgroups of People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Alberta.





Footnote: white markers indicated the cluster mean for each group.

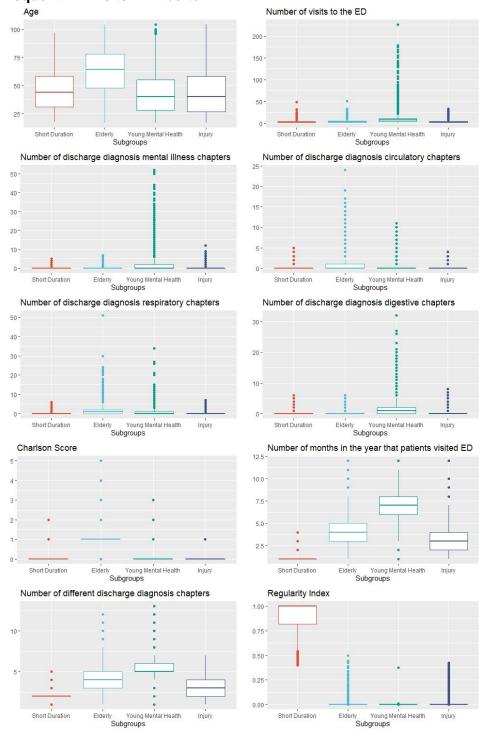
We were interested in a graphical representation of our subgroups, but doing so requires a reduction of the dimensionality of the data so that it can be represented on a graph. One approach to this is to apply a principal components-type analysis after clustering, and then plotting the most important variables vs. the second most important (these are Dim1 and Dim2). Supplementary Figure 5 showed clusters of samples based on their similarity. Dimension 1 (Dim 1) accounted for 24.1% of the information. Dimension 2 (Dim 2) accounted for 15.2% of the information. The variation within Subgroups 2 and 3 was higher than for Subgroups 1 and 4.

The plot above suggests that number of ICD-10-CA ED discharge diagnoses pertaining to respiratory, number of distinct ICD-10-CA diagnostic chapters, number of months that the patient visited an ED, and ED visit number had a strong positive effect on Dimension 1. Regularity index had a strong negative effect on Dimension 1. Age at index, Charlson comorbidity score, and number of ICD-10-CA ED discharge diagnoses pertaining to circulatory concerns had strong positive effect on Dimension 2. Number of ICD-10-CA ED discharge diagnoses pertaining to mental health had strong negative effect on Dimension 2.

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Appendix Figure 6: Distribution Among Clustering Variables for People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Alberta



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Appendix Table 5: Demographic and Healthcare Utilization Characteristics of People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Ontario (Detailed Diagnostic Codes).

Characteristics	April 1 st 2011- March 31 st 2012	April 1 st 2012- March 31 st 2013	April 1 st 2013- March 31 st 2014	April 1 st 2014- March 31 st 2015	April 1 st 2015- March 31 st 2016				
	ED Visit Characteristics (NACRS)								
Number of patients	435,334	446,954	451,568	465,949	477,647				
Number of ED visits	2,004,975	2,053,609	2,079,281	2,149,965	2,213,161				
Top 5, ICD-10 main problem chapter, n (%)									
Diseases of the respiratory system (X)	162,000 (8.1)	170,,897 (8.3)	160,762 (7.7)	180,688 (8.4)	178,433 (8.1)				
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (XIII)	136,297 (6.8)	137722 (6.7)	140,076 (6.7)	146,490 (6.8)	154,688 (7.0)				
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII)	412,928 (20.6)	427,536 (20.8)	442,744 (21.3)	458,415 (21.3)	473,430 (21.4)				
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX)	285,123 (14.2)	294,076 (14.3)	300,560 (14.5)	305,651 (14.2)	320,186 (14.5)				
Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI)	215,204 (10.7)	212,930 (10.4)	210,348 (10.1)	205,890 (9.6)	202,791 (9.2)				
	Hospital A	Admission Charact	eristics (DAD)						
Number of admissions	255,202	268,573	276,307	284,787	292,411				
Top 5 ICD-10 diagnosis chapters 1 simplified, n									
Diseases of the circulatory system (IX)	45,573 (17.9)	46,974 (17.5)	48,260 (17.5)	49,267 (17.3)	50,029 (17.1)				
Diseases of the respiratory system (X)	29,491 (11.6)	32,452 (12.1)	32,177 (11.6)	36,479 (12.8)	35,749 (12.2)				
Diseases of the digestive system (XI) Symptoms and abnormal	36,263 (14.2)	37,876 (14.1)	39,235 (14.2)	38,983 (13.7)	41,150 (14.1)				
clinical and laboratory findings, not otherwise classified (XVIII)	26,679 (10.5)	27,441 (10.2)	27,767 (10.0)	27,771 (9.8)	27,636 (9.5)				

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24,054 (9.4)

25,134 (9.4)

26,302 (9.5)

26,175 (9.2)

27,506 (9.4)

Footnote: * Emergency department (ED), National Ambulatory Care Reporting System metadata (NACRS), International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-CA), Discharge Abstract Database metadata (DAD).

Appendix Table 6: Demographic and Healthcare Utilization Characteristics of People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Alberta (Detailed Diagnostic Codes).

Characteristics	April 1 st 2011- March 31 st 2012	April 1 st 2012- March 31 st 2013	April 1 st 2013- March 31 st 2014	April 1st 2014- March 31st 2015	April 1st 2015- March 31st 2016			
ED Visit Characteristics (NACRS)								
Number of patients	98,840	102,781	103,711	105,047	102,027			
Number of ED visits	680,740	699,962	700,347	704,256	690,330			
Top 5, ICD-10 main problem chapter, n (%)								
1	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI): 176,635 (25.9)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI): 174,778 (25.0)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI): 170,621 (24.4)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI): 162,792 (23.1)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI): 155,595 (22.5)			
2	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII): 97,120 (14.3)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII): 100,856 (14.4)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII):	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII): 108,528 (15.4)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII): 109,645 (15.9)			
3	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX): 83,836 (12.3)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX): 88,125 (12.6)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX): 89,318 (12.8)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX): 90,696 (12.9)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX): 88,772 (12.9)			
4	Diseases of the respiratory system (X): 52,425 (7.7) Diseases of the	Diseases of the respiratory system (X): 55,897 (8.0) Diseases of the	Diseases of the respiratory system (X): 53,191 (7.6) Diseases of	Diseases of the respiratory system (X): 54,796 (7.8)	Diseases of the respiratory system (X): 50,195 (7.3)			
5	musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (XIII): 39,632 (5.8)	musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (XIII): 40,971 (5.9)	the musculoskelet al system and connective tissue (XIII):	Diseases of the digestive system (XI): 40,888 (5.8)	Mental and behavioral disorders (V): 40,297 (5.8)			

41,019 (5.9)

	Hospital Admission Characteristics (DAD)								
Number of admissions	66,843	70,069	72,127	73,466	75,014				
Top 5 ICD-10 diagnosis chapters 1 simplified, n									
Mental and behavioral disorders (V)	6,736 (10.1)	7,244 (10.3)	7,824 (10.8)	8,143 (11.1)	8,608 (11.5)				
Diseases of the circulatory system (IX)	8,328 (12.5)	8,734 (12.5)	8,865 (12.3)	9,319 (12.7)	9,415 (12.6)				
Diseases of the respiratory system (X)	7,196 (10.8)	7,906 (11.3)	7,957 (11.0)	8,778 (11.9)	8,679 (11.6)				
Diseases of the digestive system (XI)	8,945 (13.4)	9,186 (13.1)	9,534 (13.2)	9,828 (13.4)	9,910 (13.2)				
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX)	6,966 (10.4)	7,310 (10.4)	7,556 (10.5)	7,823 (10.6)	7,904 (10.5)				

Footnote: * Emergency department (ED), National Ambulatory Care Reporting System metadata (NACRS), International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-CA), Discharge Abstract Database metadata (DAD).

Appendix Table 7: Patient and Healthcare Utilization Characteristics of People Who Make Frequent ED Visits and Controls (April 1st, 2015 to March 31st, 2016) by Province (Detailed Diagnostic Codes).

	People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Ontario (N=477,647)	Control Cohort in Ontario (N=1,711,848)	People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Alberta (N=102,027)	Control Cohort in Alberta (N=404,111)
	Hospitalization Cha	aracteristics (DAD)		
Number of patients with at least one admission, n (%)	157,965 (33.1)	186,498 (10.9)	38,464 (37.7)	50,348 (12.5)
Number of admissions	292,411	211,916	75,014	59,728
ICD-10 main problem chapter among a	admissions, n (%)			
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases (I)	13,966 (4.8)	8,194 (3.9)	2,624 (3.5)	1,738 (2.9)
Neoplasms and diseases of the blood (II and III)	18,315 (6.3)	11,092 (5.2)	3,439 (4.6)	2,778 (4.7)
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (IV)	12,236 (4.2)	5,688 (2.7)	3,028 (4.0)	1,543 (2.6)
Mental and behavioural disorders (V)	10,187 (3.5)	4,202 (2.0)	8,608 (11.5)	4,754 (8.0)
Diseases of the nervous system (VI)	6,983 (2.4)	4,583 (2.2)	1,655 (2.2)	1,264 (2.1)
Diseases of the eye, adnexa, ear and mastoid process (VII&VIII)	836 (0.3)	1,114 (0.5)	242 (0.3)	385 (0.6)
Diseases of the circulatory system (IX)	50,029 (17.1)	45,727 (21.6)	9,415 (12.6)	9,660 (16.2)
Diseases of the respiratory system (X)	35,749 (12.2)	20,607 (9.7)	8,679 (11.6)	5,353 (9.0)
Diseases of the digestive system (XI) Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous	41,150 (14.1)	34,488 (16.3)	9,910 (13.2)	8,722 (14.6)
tissue (XII)	5,120 (1.8)	2,015 (1.0)	1,653 (2.2)	645 (1.1)
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (XIII)	8,113 (2.8)	4,757 (2.2)	1,975 (2.6)	1,352 (2.3)
Diseases of the genitourinary system (XIV)	19,100 (6.5)	10,740 (5.1)	4,695 (6.3)	3,563 (6.0)
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium (XV)	5,417 (1.9)	6,688 (3.2)	2,848 (3.8)	2,853 (4.8)
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (XVI)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	2 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (XVII)	124 (0.0)	110 (0.1)	44 (0.1)	47 (0.1)
Symptoms and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not otherwise classified (XVIII)	27,636 (9.5)	15,969 (7.5)	5,523 (7.4)	3,374 (5.6)

Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX)	27,506 (9.4)	27,818 (13.1)	7,904 (10.5)	9,135 (15.3)
Factors influencing health status and contact with health services (XXI)	9,944 (3.4)	8,122 (3.8)	2,770 (3.7)	2,560 (4.3)
NA	0 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (0.0)

Appendix Table 8: Cluster analysis and Subgroup Characterization Among People Who Make Frequent ED Visits in Ontario, April 1st, 2013 to March 31st, 2014 (Detailed Diagnostic Codes).

	Subgroup 1 (Short Duration)	Subgroup 2 (Older Patients)	Subgroup 3 (Young Mental Health)	Subgroup 4 (Injury)
Number of patients Age, median (IQR)	34,116 49 (32-64)	74,995 69 (54-80)	49,167 45 (29-63)	292,704 47 (30-65)
Number of visits to the ED, median (IQR)	2 (1-3)	3 (2-4)	6 (4-8)	2 (1-3)
Number of discharge diagnosis mental illness chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-0)
Number of discharge diagnosis circulatory chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)
Number of discharge diagnosis respiratory chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	1 (0-2)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-0)
Number of discharge diagnosis digestive chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-0)
Charlson comorbidity index, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	1 (1-1)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)
Number of different discharge diagnosis chapters, median (IQR)	2 (2-2)	3 (2-4)	5 (4-6)	3 (2-3)
Number of months in the year that patients	1 (1-2)	3 (3-4)	6 (5-7)	3 (2-3)

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visited ED, median (IQR)

Regularity index, median (IQR)	1 (0.8-1)	0.9x10 ⁻⁷ (0.6x10 ⁻⁷ - 6.8x10 ⁻⁵)	1.3x10 ⁻⁷ (0.9x10 ⁻⁷ - 2.2x10 ⁻⁷)	0.9x10 ⁻⁷ (0.5x10 ⁻⁷ - 1.2x10 ⁻⁴)
Number of patients	34,116	74,995	49,167	292,704
Sex				
Female Male	16,875 (49.5) 17,241 (50.5)	39,575 (52.8) 35,420 (47.2)	29,136 (59.3) 20,030 (40.7)	166,034 (56.7) 126,667 (43.3)
Other (transsexual, hermaphrodite)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.0)
Undifferentiated NA	0 (0.0) 0 (0.0)	0 (0.0) 0 (0.0)	1 (0.0) 0 (0.0)	1 (0.0) 1 (0.0)
Rural/urban, n (%)				
Rural Urban	7,361 (21.6) 26,669 (78.2)	15,945 (21.3) 58,923 (78.6)	10,957 (22.3) 37,485 (76.2)	58,949 (20.1) 232,647 (79.5)
NA	86 (0.3)	127 (0.2)	725 (1.5)	1,108 (0.4)
Number of ED visits	113,990	386,011	563,397	1,187,131
Top 5, ICD-10 ED diagr	osis chapters, n (%)			
	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI), 24,795 (21.8)	Diseases of the respiratory system (X), 77,541 (20.1)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 123,315 (21.9)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 264,031 (22.2)
	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 19,285 (16.9)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 73,106 (18.9)	Mental and behavioral disorders (V), 65,626 (11.6)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 210,374 (17.7)
	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX),	Diseases of the circulatory system (IX), 58,144 (15.1)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI),	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI),

	15,663 (13.7)		63,746 (11.3)	115,539 (9.7)
	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (XII), 9,765 (8.6) Diseases of the	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 32,607 (8.4) Factors influencing health status and	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 61,927 (11.0) Diseases of the	Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (XIII), 90,508 (7.6) Diseases of the genitourinary system
	digestive system (XI), 7,764 (6.8)	contract with health services (XXI), 22,428 (5.8)	digestive system (XI), 47,698 (8.5)	(XIV), 86,594 (7.3)
NA	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)
Top 5 ICD-10 ED prima	ry diagnosis, n (%)			
	Other chemotherapy (Z512), 13,082 (11.5)	COPD, with acute exacerbation (J441), 23,782 (4.2)	Other and unspecified abdominal pain (R104), 23,782 (4.2)	Other and unspecified abdominal pain (R104), 46,055 (3.9)
	Other and unspecified abdominal pain (R104), 3,944 (3.5)	Asthma, unspecified (J4590), 15,192 (2.7)	Other chemotherapy (Z512), 15,192 (2.7)	Urinary tract infection (N390), 37,335 (3.1)
	Attention to surgical dressings and sutures (Z480), 3,151 (2.8)	Pneumonia, unspecified (J189), 15,025 (2.7)	Urinary tract infection (N390), 15,025 (2.7)	Chest pain, unspecified (R074), 31,801 (2.7)
	Cellulitis of lower limb (L0311), 3,107 (2.7)	Bronchitis, not specified as acute or chronic (J40), 12,552 (2.2)	Chest pain, unspecified (R074), 12,552 (2.2)	Other chemotherapy (Z512), 26,497 (2.2)
	Cellulitis of upper limb (L0310), 2,021 (1.8)	Congestive heart failure (I500), 10,268 (1.8)	Mental and behavioral disorders due to use of alcohol, acute intoxication (F100), 10,268 (1.8)	Cellulitis of lower limb (L0311), 16,941 (1.4)
NA	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)
Discharged Patient left the	92,928 (81.5)	266,750 (69.1)	455,419 (80.8)	1,003,316 (84.5)
emergency department	4,525 (4.0)	8,323 (2.2)	32,546 (5.8)	43,506 (3.7)

at his/her own risk

Admitted to in-patient facility	9,544 (8.4)	101,667 (26.3)	64,298 (11.4)	121,653 (10.2)
Transferred to another facility	6,952 (6.1)	8,706 (2.3)	10,989 (2.0)	18,268 (1.5)
Death NA	41 (0.0) (0.0)	565 (0.1) (0.0)	145 (0.0) (0.0)	388 (0.0) (0.0)
	Subgroup 1 (Short Duration, N=34,116)	Subgroup 2 (Older Patients, N=74,995)	Subgroup 3 (Young Mental Health, N=49,167)	Subgroup 4 (Injury, N=292,704)
Number of patients with at least one admission, n (%)	6,825 (20.0)	45,430 (60.6)	21,745 (44.2)	72,084 (24.6)
Number of admissions	8,078	100,924	57,359	110,157
Number of admissions per patient, median (IQR)	2 (1-3)	1 (1-2)	2 (1-3)	1 (1-1)
Median length of stay in days, median (IQR)	3 (1-6)	4 (2-8)	4 (2-8)	5 (3-10)
Top 5 ICD-10 primary d	liagnosis chapters, n (%)			
	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 1,574 (19.5)	Diseases of the circulatory system (IX), 30,001 (29.7)	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 12,229 (21.3)	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 19,370 (17.6)
	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 1,351 (16.7)	Diseases of the respiratory system (X), 20,441 (20.3)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (XVIII), 6,901 (12.0)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 14,330 (13.0)
	Diseases of the circulatory system (IX), 1,286 (15.9)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (XVIII), 7,836 (7.8)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 5,604 (9.8)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (XVIII), 12,961 (11.8)
	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not	Neoplasms and diseases of the blood (C &D),	Diseases of the circulatory system (IX),	Diseases of the circulatory system (IX),

	elsewhere classified (XVIII),	7,459 (7.4)	4,707 (8.2)	12,934 (11.7)
NA	599 (7.4) Diseases of the genitourinary system (XIV), 560 (6.9) 0 (0.0)	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 6,693 (6.6) 0 (0.0)	Diseases of the genitourinary system (XIV), 4,615 (8.0) 0 (0.0)	Diseases of the genitourinary system (XIV), 9,034 (8.2) 0 (0.0)
No Yes NA	8,027 (99.4) 51 (0.6) 0 (0.0)	100,643 (99.7) 281 (0.3) 0 (0.0)	55,351 (96.5) 2,008 (3.5) 0 (0.0)	108,918 (98.9) 1,239 (1.1) 0 (0.0)
	Subgroup 1 (Short Duration, N=34,116)	Subgroup 2 (Older Patients, N=74,995)	Subgroup 3 (Young Mental Health, N=49,167)	Subgroup 4 (Injury, N=292,704)
Number of patients with at least one mental health admission, n (%)	1,103 (3.2)	4,955 (6.6)	10,048 (20.4)	20,031 (6.8)
Number of mental health admissions	1,926	8,467	40,406	45,035
DAD OMHRS	363 (18.8) 1,563 (81.2)	4,365 (51.6) 4,102 (48.4)	8,555 (21.2) 31,851 (78.8)	9,482 (21.1) 35,553 (78.9)
Homelessness status among patients with at least one mental health admission, n (%)	113 (5.9)	214 (2.5)	3,874 (9.6)	2,264 (5.0)
Age among patients with at least one mental health admission, median (IQR)	45 (29-58)	72 (56-83)	42 (28-56)	43 (28-60)
Number of mental health admissions per person among patients with at least one mental health admission, median (IQR)	1 (1-2)	1 (1-2)	2 (1-5)	1 (1-3)

Involuntary admissions among mental health admissions, n (%)	308 (16)	816 (9.6)	6,172 (15.3)	6,877 (15.3)
Length of stay in days among mental health admissions, median (IQR)	9 (3-21)	9 (3-20)	5 (2-13)	7 (3-17)
Discharged home Transferred Died	1,588 (82.5) 210 (10.9) 3 (0.2)	6,274 (74.1) 1,780 (21.0) 95 (1.1)	32,718 (81.0) 3,184 (7.9) 35 (0.1)	37,605 (83.5) 4,338 (9.6) 121 (0.3)
Left against medical advice	39 (2.0)	114 (1.3)	1,427 (3.5)	831 (1.8)
Other (cadaveric donor, homeless, and other)	86 (4.5)	204 (2.4)	3,042 (7.5)	2,140 (4.8)
NA ´	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Mood disorders	629 (32.7)	1,967 (23.2)	10,473 (25.9)	14,071 (31.2)
Schizophrenic and psychotic disorders	524 (27.2)	1,291 (15.2)	9,852 (24.4)	11,582 (25.7)
Substance related disorders	337 (17.5)	1,150 (13.6)	10,686 (26.4)	8,766 (19.5)
Organic disorders	177 (9.2)	3,097 (36.6)	1,379 (3.4)	3,606 (8.0)
Other mental health disorders	137 (7.1)	423 (5.0)	3,248 (8.0)	3,478 (7.7)
Anxiety disorders Personality disorders	57 (3.0) 51 (2.6)	344 (4.1) 162 (1.9)	1,582 (3.9) 2,964 (7.3)	1,772 (3.9) 1,517 (3.4)
Non-mental health disorders	11 (0.6)	30 (0.4)	177 (0.4)	183 (0.4)
Unknown Disorders NA	3 (0.2) 0 (0.0)	3 (0.0) 0 (0.0)	45 (0.1) 0 (0.0)	60 (0.1) 0 (0.0)

Footnote: Emergency department (ED), National Ambulatory Care Reporting System metadata (NACRS), Interquartile range (IQR), Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-CA), Discharge Abstract Database (DAD), Hospital Mental Health Database Metadata (HMHDB), Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (OMHRS).

Appendix Table 9: Cluster Analysis and Subgroup Characterization Among People Who Made Frequent ED Visits in Alberta, April 1st 2013 to March 31st 2014 (Detailed Diagnostic Codes).

	Subgroup 1 (Short Duration)	Subgroup 2 (Older Patients)	Subgroup 3 (Young Mental Health)	Subgroup 4 (Injury)
	Subgroup Ch	aracteristics (Clustering	Variables)	
Number of patients Age, median (IQR)	4,301 44 (31-58)	18,776 64 (48-78)	12,827 40 (28-55)	67,722 40 (27-58)
Number of visits to the ED, median (IQR)	3 (2-4)	3 (2-5)	7 (4-11)	3 (2-4)
Number of discharge diagnosis mental illness chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-2)	0 (0-0)
Number of discharge diagnosis circulatory chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)
Number of discharge diagnosis respiratory chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	1 (0-2)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-0)
Number of discharge diagnosis digestive chapters, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)	1 (0-2)	0 (0-0)
Charlson comorbidity index, median (IQR)	0 (0-0)	1 (1-1)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)
Number of different discharge diagnosis chapters, median (IQR)	2 (2-2)	4 (3-5)	5 (5-6)	3 (2-4)
Number of months in the year that patients	1 (1-1)	4 (3-5)	7 (6-8)	3 (2-4)

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visited ED, median (IQR)

Regularity index, median (IQR)	1 (0.8-1)	1x10 ⁻⁷ (0.7x10 ⁻⁷ - 3.8x10 ⁻⁵)	1.6x10 ⁻⁷ (1.2x10 ⁻⁷ - 2.6x10 ⁻⁷)	0.9x10 ⁻⁷ (0.6x10 ⁻⁷ - 8.6x10 ⁻⁵)
	Patien	t Characteristics (NAC	RS)	
Number of patients	4,301	18,776	12,827	67,722
Sex				
Female	1,868 (43.4)	9,744 (51.9)	7,766 (60.5)	37,888 (55.9)
Male	2,433 (56.6)	9,032 (48.1)	5,060 (39.4)	29,833 (44.1)
NA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	1 (0.0)
Rural/urban, n (%)				
Rural	1,428 (33.2)	6,720 (35.8)	5,526 (43.1)	22,378 (33.0)
Urban	2,850 (66.3)	11,921 (63.5)	6,846 (53.4)	44,610 (65.9)
NA	23 (0.5)	135 (0.7)	455 (3.5)	734 (1.1)
		·		
	E	D Visit Characteristics		
Number of ED visits	499,395	1,587,307	139,770	780,967
Top 5, ICD-10 ED diagr	nosis chapters. n (%)			
. op 0, 10 = 10 = 1 mm g .	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI), 16,010 (62.2)	Diseases of the respiratory system (X), 25,965 (19.2)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI), 55,758 (27.1)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI), 89,826 (23.3)
	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (XII), 1,878 (7.3)	Factors influencing health status and contract with health services (XXI), 20,731 (15.4)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 29,857 (14.5)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 61,323 (15.9)
	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 1,503 (5.8) Injury, poisoning and certain other	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 20,646 (15.3) Diseases of the circulatory system (IX),	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 21,016 (10.2) Mental and behavioural disorders (V),	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings (XVIII), 59,806 (15.5) Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and

	consequences of external causes (XIX),	14,914 (11.1)	20,583 (10.0)	connective tissue (XIII),
	1,485 (5.8)	Injury, poisoning and		24,335 (6.3)
	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 1,033 (4.0)	certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 10,892 (8.1)	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 15,248 (7.4)	Diseases of the genitourinary system (XIV), 23,424 (6.1)
NA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Top 5 ICD-10 ED primar	, ,	5 (5.5)	G (G.G)	G (G.G)
	Other chemotherapy (Z512), 12,356 (48.0)	Other chemotherapy (Z512), 9,492 (7.0)	Other chemotherapy (Z512), 31,466 (15.3)	Other chemotherapy (Z512), 38,202 (9.9)
	Attention to surgical dressings and sutures (Z480), 1,574 (6.1)	COPD, with acute exacerbation (J441), 4,599 (3.4)	Attention to surgical dressings and sutures (Z480), 6,016 (2.9)	Attention to surgical dressings and sutures (Z480), 12,771 (3.3)
	Other specified medical care NEC (Z5188), 823 (3.2)	Bronchitis, not specified as acute or chronic (J40), 4,241 (3.1)	Other and unspecified abdominal pain (R104), 5,650 (2.7)	Urinary tract infection (N390), 9,159 (2.4)
	Cellulitis of lower limb (L0311), 623 (2.4)	Congestive heart failure (I500), 3,919 (2.9)	Urinary tract infection (N390), 4,044 (2.0)	Other and unspecified abdominal pain (R104), 9,075 (2.4)
	Periapical abscess without sinus (K047), 372 (1.4)	Asthma, unspecified (J4590), 3,025 (2.2)	Mental and behavioral disorders due to use of alcohol, acute intoxication (F100), 4,329 (2.1)	Other specified orthopaedic follow-up care (Z478), 8,380 (2.2)
NA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Visit disposition, n (%) Discharged Patient left the	23,892 (92.9)	102,510 (76.0)	177,626 (86.3)	334,800 (87.0)
emergency department at his/her own risk	409 (1.6)	3,306 (2.5)	10,731 (5.2)	14,663 (3.8)
Admitted to in-patient facility	762 (3.0)	24,873 (18.4)	14,082 (6.8)	27,476 (7.1)
Transferred to another facility	654 (2.5)	4,090 (3.0)	3,376 (1.6)	7,861 (2.0)
Death	2 (0.0)	119 (0.1)	37 (0.0)	53 (0.0)

NA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)		
	Hospitaliz	ation Characteristics	(DAD)			
Subgroup 1 Subgroup 2 Subgroup 3 Sul (Short Duration, (Older Patients, (Young Mental N=4,301) N=18,776) Health, N=12,827)						
Number of patient with at least one admission, n (%)	603 (14.0)	10,926 (58.2)	6,209 (48.4)	18,857 (27.8)		
Number of admissions	728	26,281	15,937	29,826		
Number of admissions per patient, median (IQR)	1 (1-1)	2 (1-3)	2 (1-3)	1 (1-2)		
Median length of stay in days, median (IQR)	5 (3-10)	4 (2-8)	3 (1-6)	4 (2-8)		
Top 5 ICD-10 primary d	liagnosis chapters, n (%)					
	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 125 (17.2)	Diseases of the circulatory system (IX), 6,145 (23.4)	Mental and behavioral disorders (V), 3,522 (22.1)	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 4,581 (15.4)		
	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 120 (16.5)	Diseases of the respiratory system (X), 5,693 (21.7)	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 2,933 (18.4)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 4,404 (14.8)		
	Diseases of the genitourinary system (XIV), 73 (10)	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (XVIII), 2,175 (8.3)	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (XIX), 1,655 (10.4)	Mental and behavioral disorders (V), 3,526 (11.8)		
	Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium (XV), 71 (9.8) Diseases of the circulatory system (IX), 57 (7.8)	Diseases of the digestive system (XI), 2,033 (7.7) Endocrine, nutritional and	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (XVIII), 1,347 (8.5) Diseases of the respiratory system (X),	Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (XVIII), 2,647 (8.9) Diseases of the genitourinary system (XIV),		

		metabolic diseases (IV),	906 (5.7)	2,405 (8.1)
NA	0 (0.0)	1,558 (5.9) 0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
All Alcohol-related diag	noses, n (%)			
No	726 (99.7)	26,117 (99.4)	14,479 (90.9)	28,939 (97.0)
Yes	2 (0.3)	164 (0.6)	1,458 (9.1)	887 (3.0)
NA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
	Mental He	ealth Hospitalizations (HI	 MHDB)	
	Subgroup 1 (Short Duration, N=4,301)	Subgroup 2 (Older Patients, N=18,776)	Subgroup 3 (Young Mental Health, N=12,827)	Subgroup 4 (Injury, N=67,722)
Number of patients with at least one mental health admission, n (%)	58 (1.3)	1,399 (7.5)	2,842 (22.2)	4,522 (6.7)
Number of mental health admissions	85	2,400	10,065	9,439
Data source among mer	ntal health admissions	. n (%)		
DAD	85 (100.0)	2,400 (100.0)	10,065 (100.0)	9,439 (100.0)
OMHRS	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Homelessness status among patients with at least one mental health admission, n (%)	3 (5.2)	34 (2.4)	283 (10.0)	209 (4.6)
Age among patients with at least one mental health admission, median (IQR)	35 (25-55)	68 (52-82)	39 (29-52)	41 (28-57)
Number of mental health admissions per person among patients with at least	1 (1-2)	1 (1-2)	2 (1-4)	1 (1-2)

one mental health admission, median

(IQR)

Involuntary admissions among mental health admissions, n (%)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Length of stay in days among mental health admissions, median (IQR)	4 (2-21)	8 (3-23)	4 (2-10)	6 (2-15)
Discharge disposition	among mental health ad	lmissions n (%)		
Discharged home	69 (81.2)	1,792 (74.7)	7,936 (78.8)	7,579 (80.3)
Transferred	13 (15.3)	428 (17.8)	822 (8.2)	1,039 (11.0)
Died	0 (0)	29 (1.2)	5 (0.0)	15 (0.2)
Left against medical	3 (3.5)	151 (6.3)	1,302 (12.9)	806 (8.5)
advice	,	,	, , ,	,
Other (cadaveric donor, homeless, and	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
other)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
NA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
	, ,	, ,	,	,
	nong mental health admi	, ,		
Mood disorders	18 (21.2)	433 (18)	1,629 (16.2)	2,137 (22.6)
Schizophrenic and	19 (22.4)	288 (12)	1,350 (13.4)	1,555 (16.5)
psychotic disorders Substance related	,	` ,	, ,	,
disorders	20 (23.5)	536 (22.3)	4,583 (45.5)	3,236 (34.3)
Organic disorders	9 (10.6)	739 (30.8)	252 (2.5)	587 (6.2)
Other mental health	, ,	` ,		• •
disorders	12 (14.1)	210 (8.8)	1,110 (11.0)	1,144 (12.1)
Anxiety disorders	4 (4.7)	146 (6.1)	407 (4.0)	421 (4.5)
Personality disorders	1 (1.2)	43 (1.8)	708 (7.0)	322 (3.4)
Non-mental health	2 (2.4)	5 (0.2)	26 (0.3)	37 (0.4)
disorders NA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
14/1	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)

Footnote: Emergency department (ED), National Ambulatory Care Reporting System metadata (NACRS), Interquartile range (IQR), Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-CA), Discharge Abstract Database (DAD), Hospital Mental Health Database Metadata (HMHDB), Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (OMHRS).

Appendix Table 10: Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of normality for continuous variables

Variables	Statistic	P value
NACRS		
Age	0.08	< 0.001
Number of visits to the ED	0.23	< 0.001
Number of discharge diagnosis mental illness chapters	0.23	<0.001
Number of discharge diagnosis circulatory chapters	0.50	< 0.001
Number of discharge diagnosis respiratory chapters	0.45	< 0.001
Number of discharge diagnosis digestive chapters	0.48	<0.001
Charlson comorbidity index	0.41	<0.001
Number of different discharge diagnosis chapters	0.44	<0.001
Number of months in the year that patients visited ED	0.49	<0.001
Regularity index	0.08	<0.001
DAD		
Number of admissions	0.27	<0.001
Length of stay	0.28	<0.001
HMHDB		
Number of mental health admissions	0.32	<0.001
Length of stay	0.42	<0.001

Footnote: Emergency department (ED), National Ambulatory Care Reporting System metadata (NACRS), Discharge Abstract Database (DAD), Hospital Mental Health Database Metadata (HMHDB).