



Update to the Privacy Impact Assessment of the
Canadian MIS Database (2003), May 2012



Canadian Institute
for Health Information

Institut canadien
d'information sur la santé



Our Vision

Better data. Better decisions.
Healthier Canadians.

Our Mandate

To lead the development and maintenance of comprehensive and integrated health information that enables sound policy and effective health system management that improve health and health care.

Our Values

Respect, Integrity, Collaboration,
Excellence, Innovation

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) is pleased to publish the following privacy impact assessment in accordance with its [Privacy Impact Assessment Policy](#):

- Canadian MIS Database (CMDB) PIA, May 2012

Approved by

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Ottawa, May 2012

Background

The Canadian MIS Database (CMDB) contains financial and statistical information on hospitals and regional health authorities across Canada. Currently, all jurisdictions in Canada provide data to the CMDB with the exception of Nunavut. Submitting jurisdictions provide data for virtually all public hospitals under their purview.

The data is collected according to a standardized framework for collecting and reporting financial and statistical data on the day-to-day operations of health service organizations. The framework is known as the *Standards for Management Information Systems in Canadian Health Service Organizations* (MIS Standards). For each reporting organization, the CMDB includes a unique organization identifier and its name, address, size and ownership, along with data relating to its financial position (balance sheet) and operations (income statement). Financial and statistical data is recorded by functional centre and by type of expense and revenue source. The functional centres correspond to the core activities carried out in the health service organization and include administrative and support services, ambulatory care services, community and social services, diagnostic and therapeutic services, education, nursing inpatient and resident services, and research. Revenues by source and expenses by type are also recorded in the CMDB. Broad groups of expenses include compensation, supplies and sundries, equipment, contracted-out services, and buildings and grounds expenses. The CMDB also records statistical information—such as the number of hours worked by staff and the number of inpatient days reported in nursing wards—and workload information that is used to measure the volume of activity provided by employees of a specific functional centre in terms of a standardized unit of time.

For further background information, see the *Privacy Impact Assessment of the Canadian MIS Database* (2003).

Current situation

Information in the CMDB is collected at the organization level and does not contain personal health information. In certain circumstances, it may be possible to derive certain other information about individuals from the CMDB; however, CMDB staff developed procedures to mitigate privacy risks to ensure that this information is properly suppressed or aggregated when used in any CMDB product.

Conclusion

Given that no personal health information or other personal information is collected for the CMDB, no further updates to the *Privacy Impact Assessment of the Canadian MIS Database* (2003) will be reported. Should the situation change in the future, CIHI will address the requirement for a privacy impact assessment in accordance with its Privacy Impact Assessment Policy.

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