



## Information sheet

### CIHI, RAI and interRAI

CIHI enjoys a long-standing partnership with **interRAI**, a not-for-profit international research network committed to improving care for people with complex medical needs.

interRAI assessment systems collect and interpret information about the characteristics and outcomes of persons served across a variety of health and social services settings.

CIHI receives the data from interRAI assessments and makes it available to health organizations across Canada. Organizations can then use the data to make evidence-informed decisions on clinical practice, planning, benchmarking and resource allocation.

# CIHI/interRAI Update — Fall 2015

## Moving forward with the new interRAI suite

interRAI's Resident Assessment Instruments are used by health organizations to assess people at the point of care, generating real-time electronic reports that flag risks and inform care planning.

interRAI has developed a new integrated suite of assessment instruments. Although each instrument in the new suite has been developed for a particular population — home care, continuing care, mental health, community health and palliative care — they share the same language and are designed to work together as a comprehensive assessment system.

### Outputs

- The content of the new integrated interRAI suite is largely the same as that in the existing set of assessment instruments, including the outputs that are generated: outcome scales, Clinical Assessment Protocols (CAPs), quality indicators and case mix systems such as Resource Utilization Groups (RUGs) used in long-term care and home care.
- Some of the outcome scales have been revised. As well, some of the CAPs have been modified to offer greater specificity.
- CIHI is analyzing these changes to assess their impact on and relevance to care and service planning.

### How CIHI can help

Check out our new video, **Using the interRAI Assessment System**. It provides a high-level look at how the integrated suite works and how it supports quality care across the continuum.

CIHI is developing new education products to help organizations understand the interRAI assessment system, with a focus on how to complete the assessment and use the information to support clinical and organizational decision-making. We have started with instruments used in long-term care and community settings (interRAI LTCF and interRAI HC).

**Coming soon:** CIHI's interRAI Implementation Toolkit. This online toolkit will contain useful tips, tools and resources to support organizations as they make the transition to the new integrated interRAI suite. The toolkit will be available in April 2016.

### Reporting system

- CIHI continues to provide data submission specifications for a number of interRAI assessment instruments. We are building on those specifications as we investigate options to support organizations in submitting data collected from the new suite.
  - As a first step, we have Canadianized several of the instruments in the new suite, including the interRAI Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF) assessment. The manual and assessment can be purchased through **interRAI**.
  - CIHI is developing specifications for the interRAI LTCF and will share updates as they become available.
- In the meantime, vendors interested in supporting the interRAI LTCF in Canada are invited and encouraged to become licensed with interRAI for the Canadian version.

### Uptake

- Jurisdictions across the country are exploring the possibility of implementing the new suite of instruments in a number of health care sectors.
- Uptake continues to grow across Canada. Both Manitoba and New Brunswick have announced that they are moving forward with adopting the interRAI LTCF.
- Starting in 2016, CIHI will provide training for those regions implementing the interRAI LTCF.

### For more information

Watch for more interRAI updates from CIHI later this year.

You can also send an email to [continuingcare@cihi.ca](mailto:continuingcare@cihi.ca).