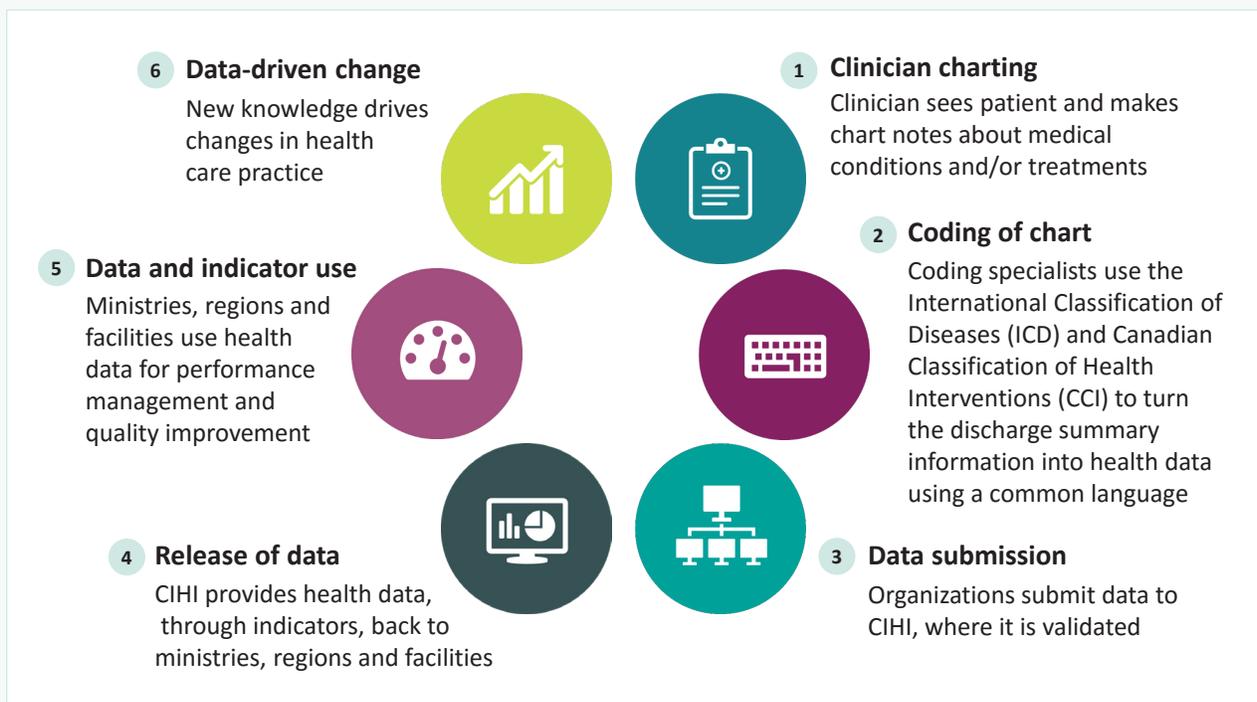


Clinical Documentation: The Foundation of Health System Data

What is clinical documentation?

Clinical documentation is any manual or electronic notation in a patient's chart made by a clinician related to a patient's medical condition or treatment. Quality clinical documentation is the basis of accurate health data.

How clinical documentation is transformed into health data



It's important to remember that coding specialists cannot diagnose or make assumptions; they therefore rely 100% on what's documented by physicians and nurse practitioners.



What makes for high-quality clinical documentation?



High-quality clinical documentation **includes** . . .

- Admitting diagnoses
- Pertinent physical examination findings
- Lab results
- Procedures
- Comorbidities while in hospital
- Discharge diagnoses, medications and active medical problems
- Arrangements for continuing care



High-quality clinical documentation **is** . . .

- Legible
- Accurate
- Complete
- Timely

**High-quality chart documentation
results in high-quality data!**



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