

# Home Care Reporting System and interRAI Contact Assessment



## Overview

The Home Care Reporting System (HCRS) — 1 of 31 data holdings of the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) — collects and reports data from the interRAI Contact Assessment (interRAI CA)©. This brief standardized clinical assessment was developed by [interRAI](#), a not-for-profit international research network committed to improving care for people with complex medical needs.

The interRAI CA instrument is designed to inform home care intake from community or hospital and to support screening of vulnerable populations in hospital emergency departments (EDs). The interRAI CA data is submitted to HCRS and made available to data providers and researchers across Canada.

## Filling an information need

The interRAI CA addresses a critical gap in home care data. It allows for the collection of comparable information on all referrals to home care wherever people are served, from urban hospitals to remote rural communities. Information is used at the client level and/or aggregated for use at the system level to help

- Identify persons at risk of adverse outcomes across care settings;
- Provide real-time decision support for referral and service planning;
- Avoid hospital admissions, alternate level of care days or visits to the ED;
- Improve coordination between hospitals and community care agencies; and
- Provide comparable data on all referrals to home care.

## Includes 2 modules

### Intake From Community or Hospital

This module captures a standardized set of information to support the home care intake process in community or hospital settings. The assessment may be administered by telephone or face to face. The decision-support algorithms identify those in need of further assessment, urgent services or specialized care such as rehabilitation.

## Screening Level Assessment for Emergency Department

This module is designed to screen elderly persons and those with complex health needs in the ED. The decision-support algorithms identify individuals who may need admission to hospital or referrals for geriatric assessment, home care or specialized services.

## Accessing HCRS data

### HCRS eReports

HCRS eReports provide submitting organizations with secure, web-based access to comparable jurisdiction-level interRAI CA data from all home care referrals in a user-friendly, interactive environment.



#### Information available in HCRS eReports

- ▶ Demographic, clinical and functional characteristics
- ▶ The type and urgency of services needed
- ▶ The availability and status of informal caregivers
- ▶ Referral and discharge status

## Data requests

Researchers, decision-makers and health managers can request specific interRAI CA data from CIHI at an aggregate or record level to suit their information needs. Interested? Complete and submit the [Data Inquiry Form](#) available on CIHI's website.



For data-specific information:  
[homecare@cihi.ca](mailto:homecare@cihi.ca)



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