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# Alberta Health Services

Knowledge Bites Lunch 'n' Learn

March 12, 2020



A Coherent and Effective Performance Measurement Framework for Mental Health and Addictions in Canada: Inevitable or Impossible?

C. E. Adair

March 12, 2020



## Outline

- Resources for a Pan-Canadian Framework
- Limitations of the current MHSUA measurement landscape
- Benefits of a Framework (and System)
- Features of an exemplary system: CPAC
- Discussion: Implications for Alberta



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## Resources for a Pan-Canadian Framework



du Canada

#### Materials Compiled/Analyzed

- ✓ Recent peer-reviewed & grey literature
- √ 19 MHSUA PT policy documents
- √ 10 MHSUA PT measurement frameworks
- ✓ Tabulated and classified > 300 indicators
- ✓ Five systematic framework development processes
- Draft report to 20 SMEs for review/input/revision
- Stakeholder symposium
- Publications in Healthcare Management Forum



## Working Definitions:

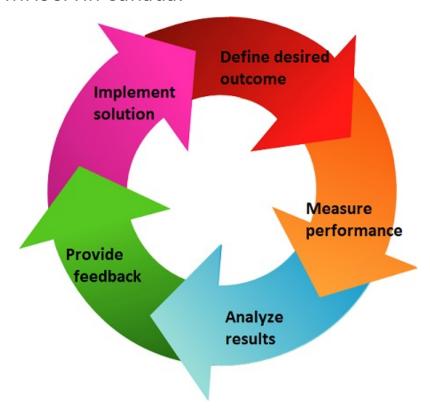
#### Measurement *Framework*

"a tool which provides a structure for conceptualizing and categorizing indicators, which will ordinarily have several domains/dimensions; to specify relationships among indicators, to ensure balance across important priority areas, and for planning the measurement process"\*



## Framework vs. System

"Indicators and a one-off report are not enough. The capacities/infrastructure for repeated measurement and reporting, continued consultation and engagement, and collaborative action on results are essential to realizing the promise of measurement in MHSUA in Canada."





#### Measurement System

- X NOT just conceptual, includes the capacity and a plan for ongoing data collection, analysis and reporting
- X NOT a single data source or necessarily housed in a single organization
- X NOT necessarily a single locus of analysis
- X NOT a single computer system in all services/settings across the country
- ✓ Pulls together and reports on measures from multiple sources
- ✓ Ideally includes collaborative processes to choose indicators as well as to take action on results
- ✓ Ideally includes validation research and evaluates its own effectiveness



#### The MHSUA Measurement Landscape in Canada:



#### **Pan-Canadian Initiatives**



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Hospital indicators: ~8
Shared Health Priorities: 6



Statistics Canada

CCHS-MH 2002 ~30 CCHS-MH 2012 ~30+ CCHS-MH 2024?



Nat'n Treatment Indicators: ~39



Public Health Agency of Canada

Surveillance of 2 disorders
Positive MH Framework: 40



(with researchers): 6 x 5 provinces



Overview of Data
Informing the Future: 55
Resources for a Framework

## **P/T Frameworks**



Commission de la santé mentale du Canada



 Reporting and Action on Mental Health Data









- Rapport sur les Indicatuers de Performance in Sante Mentale: 109
- Portrait Statistique de la sante mentale des Quebecois: 25



Mental Health and Addictions
 Programs Performance Indicators: 39



 Creating Comprehensive Children's MH Indicators for BC: 90



- OMHLTC Strategy for PM Strategy MHA System: 17
- ICES Taking Stock: 18
- ICES MH of Children and Youth in Ontario: 26



- AHS Performance of the AMH System: 8
- AH Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (in development):

#### **Indicator Chaos**



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#### **Indicator Chaos**



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Not only sheer numbers, but *many different types of indicators* and ways to characterize them:

Structure/Process/Outcome; Forward-looking/backward looking; Leading/Lagging; Short term/medium term/long term; Narrow/broad; Ambiguous/non-ambiguous; Existing/aspirational; Low level/high level; Big dot/small dot; Strategic; Actionable; Tipping point; High impact/low impact; Available; Interpretable; Relevant.....



#### Other Limitations

- Multiple players; no lead organization; no defined roles & responsibilities
- Mostly disconnected initiatives
- No coherence in how all the indicators fit together
- Many initiatives are conceptual only, one-offs or very long intervals
- Most indicators are not tied to strategy or policy directions
- Major gaps (Indigenous, C & Y, integration of MH and SUA services)
- Lack of balance (most indicators based on adult and acute care)
- Inability to benchmark (unequal technical capacity)
- No mechanism for collaborative action on the findings
- Lack of validation:

(incl. understanding them in context, and links to outcomes including unintended effects)



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#### High-level Priorities in PT Policies

Policy Priority (of 24 priorities)	# (of 13 PTs)
Access	11
Promotion/Prevention/Early Intervention (PPEI)	10
Children & Youth	8
Needs-based Person-Centered Care	8
Indigenous Peoples	7
Close Gaps/Integration	6
Collaboration across Boundaries	6
Diversity	5
Quality/Better Outcomes	5

Priorities also echo the National Strategy: promotion/prevention; recovery and rights; access to services; disparities and diversity; First Nations, Inuit and Métis; and leadership/collaboration



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## Inability to Benchmark

- Lack of comparable data
- Lack of shared definitions for measures even if comparable data
- Lack of consensus on which measures to compare
- Lack of mechanisms for collaboration
- Unequal capacity to participate

## Inability to Benchmark?

Toward Quality Mental Health Services in Canada





Commission de la santé mentale du Canada



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#### Lack of Validation

#### **Unintended Effects**

#### Smith 1995 – 8 types:

tunnel vision, sub optimization, myopia, measure fixation, misrepresentation, misinterpretation, gaming, ossification

Mannion 2012 – 20 types in 4 categories



#### A pan-Canadian MHSUA Framework should help address....

- Indicator Chaos
- Incoherence
- Imbalance
- Disconnects with Strategy/Policy
- Gaps

#### A pan-Canadian MHSUA System should help address....

- One-offs/lengthy intervals
- Inequality of Capacity/Inability to benchmark
- Lack of Action
- Lack of Validation



## A <u>Pan-Canadian</u> Framework

- ✓ Measurement is at the system/population-level (NOT local QI)
- ✓ Complementary to measurement at other levels (PTs/regions)
- ✓ Collaborative, consensus-based measurement, not imposed



## **An Exemplary System**



• System Performance Initiative:

37 indicators in 8 health care domains by disease site and by P/T:

http://www.systemperformance.ca/

• **Domains:** Prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, person-centered perspective, research, appropriateness, long-term outcomes



## Features of CPAC's System

- ✓ A conceptual framework connected to strategy
- ✓ Collaboration between the national group and PTs
- ✓ Shared terms and operational definitions
- ✓ Data from multiple sources (Stats Can, CIHI and PTs submit)
- ✓ Indicators based on available data but ALSO identified gaps and aspirational indicators development and regular review
- ✓ Clear delineation of the types of indicators relevant at each level and logic models that connect indicators across levels A coherent plan for analysis and reporting (online to all stakeholders)
- ✓ Shared technical capacity
- ✓ Engagement of patients, families and other stakeholders
- ✓ Collaborative processes across PTs to set priorities for action and shared best practices aimed at improvement
- ✓ Evaluation (of the system)



#### **Impossible for MHA?**

- Too many diverse stakeholders
- Complexity of conditions and services too great
- Many with MHA conditions are not receiving services
- Most existing data not comparable

#### Inevitable?

- Greater policy recognition of MHA federally and in PTs
- Most PTs have a commitment to measurement in their MHA policies
- Good work to build on e.g. Stats Can CCHS surveys
- Several players with complementary contributions



#### Comments, Questions?



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