

The Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) is an independent, non-profit organization that produces knowledge to enhance the effectiveness of health care for Ontarians. Internationally recognized for its innovative use of population-based health information, ICES' evidence supports health policy development and guides changes to the organization and delivery of health care services.

Key to our work is our ability to link population-based health information, at the patient-level, in a way that ensures the privacy and confidentiality of personal health information. Linked databases reflecting 12 million of 30 million Canadians allow us to follow patient populations through diagnosis and treatment, and to evaluate outcomes.

ICES brings together the best and the brightest talent under one roof. Many of our scientists are not only internationally recognized leaders in their fields, but are also practicing clinicians who understand the grassroots of health care delivery, making the knowledge produced at ICES clinically-focused and useful in changing practice. Other team members have statistical training, epidemiological backgrounds, project management or communications expertise. The variety of skill sets and educational backgrounds ensures a multi-disciplinary approach to issues and creates a real-world mosaic of perspectives that is vital to shaping Ontario's future health care system.

ICES receives core funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. In addition, our faculty and staff compete for peer-reviewed grants from federal funding agencies, such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and project-specific funds are received from provincial and national organizations. These combined sources enable ICES to have a large number of projects underway, covering a broad range of topics. The knowledge that arises from these efforts is always produced independent of our funding bodies, which is critical to our success as Ontario's objective, credible source of *Evidence Guiding Health Care*.

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