

# Better Tools, Better Accountability, Better Performance



## THE ISSUE

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To more effectively assess the performance of Canada's mental health programs and services, **we need more comprehensive health indicators and health expenditure data.**

Right now, there are **no agreed upon mental health indicators** that give us a clear picture of how the mental health system is performing.

When it comes to **mental health expenditures**, we only have data related to hospital-based care.

There are currently **no provincial-territorial wait time indicators for psychiatry.**

## WHAT PARLIAMENTARIANS CAN DO

Through the Mental Health Commission of Canada and the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), the federal government can play a significant role in developing more effective tools to measure the performance of the mental health system in Canada.

- Important work has already been initiated in the area of health indicators (Mental Health Commission of Canada) and mental health expenditures (Canadian Institute for Health Information), but more needs to be done to make this a priority.
- We are in the early stage of mental health indicator development.
- The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) has hospital-based information on mental health, but little information on mental health expenditures in the community.
- The CPA would be pleased to work with CIHI to develop a more robust dataset on mental health.