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Title **Restraint type and frequency for Involuntary patients admitted under the B.C. Mental Health Act**
 2018/19-2022/23 (* Year to Date)*

Completion Date 2023-07-11

Client FOI HTH 2023-30140

Question being asked

Annual case counts of the use of restraints with involuntary patients pursuant to the Mental Health Act, disaggregated by category of restraint (e.g. mechanical/chair/strap; physical/manual restraint by staff; seclusion room; none) and any available periods of time restraint was used (e.g. use that is less than 12 hours, use that exceeds 24 hours, unknown, and none). (Date Range for Record Search: From 4/1/2016 To 3/31/2022)

Summary of Analysis

Information on restraint use was only introduced in 2018/19 therefore this request cannot meet the need for data 2016/17 and 2017/18. For fiscal years 2018/19 and 2019/20, data is not available for involuntary legal status due to changes introduced for data collection of Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) group 15 variables. Definitions and standardization of data collection occurred during these latter two fiscal years to ensure accurate reporting of involuntary patients within BC facilities reporting to DAD.

Note: not all Provincial Mental Health Facilities report to DAD, therefore a known data gap exists for involuntary patients and hence restraint use for involuntary patients.

Over 5000 hospitalizations occur annually for 2018/19 to 2022/23 for patients that were restrained within the first 3 days of their stay. Seclusion rooms were consistently the most used type of restraint across all years.

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 SME = Subject Matter Expert

RMS # 5627 **Filename** RMS 5627 FOI HTH-2023-30140 Hospitalization with Restraints_types and frequency HSIAR.xlsm

The information contained in this/these spreadsheet(s) is of a summary nature and may be released in its entirety (Cover Sheet and relevant Tabs) for the purpose for which it was provided. However, as it was prepared to address a specific question, other use or manipulation of the data is not permitted.

Restraint type and frequency for Involuntary patients admitted under the B.C. Mental Health Act

2018/19-2022/23* (* Year to Date)

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Data source 1 Discharge Abstract Database

Extract date 2023-07-10

Notes

- 1 Hospitalizations are selected with any Care level: Acute, Rehab, Day Surgery, or Psychiatric. The psychiatric care level is only used at Vancouver General Hospital, UBC Health Sciences Centre Hospital, Hillside Centre, and South Hills Centre. All of these are designated facilities under the Mental Health Act.
- 2 Mental Health diagnoses falling under the Mental Health Act (MHA):
ICD 10 codes: F0, F1, F2, F3, F4, F50, F51, F52, F530, F531, F55, F59, F6, F840, F841, F843, F844,
F845, F848, F849, F9, Z281, Z55, Z56, Z57, Z600, Z601, Z603, Z604, Z605, Z608, Z609, Z61, Z62, Z63, Z640, Z641, Z644, Z65, Z720, Z721, Z722, Z723, Z724, Z725, Z726, Z729, Z730, Z731, Z732, Z733, Z734, Z735, Z738, Z739, R410, G312, G442
- 3 Cases are included if they contain one of the above MHA mental health diagnosis codes in any position in the record with diagnosis type M, 1, 2, 3, W, X, Y, 5, or 6. This is an expansion from previous reporting where only type M was included. Records are classified as Main Diagnosis (Type M) or Voluntary/Other Diagnosis Type throughout this report
- 4 All Involuntary hospitalizations are included in this report. Involuntary cases that do not have one of the listed mental health diagnoses in their record are classified as "Unspecified Mental Disorder". Patient charts often contain references to self-harm and/or poisoning (contained under the ICD10-CA injury codes).
- 5 If the involuntary flag for mental health hospitalization is 'Y', then the case is identified as involuntary; other cases have the status " Voluntary & Other".

For 2020/2021 fiscal year onwards, hospitalizations with legal status upon arrival at emergency department or legal status at admission recorded as forensic admission are not classified as involuntary unless Mental Health Act Form 4 is also included in the hospitalization record. Forensic patients categorized as status "Other" are determined to be Not Criminally Responsible (NCR) and may be involuntary under another act without the completion of a MHA Form 4 at the reporting facility.
- 6 Involuntary is defined as having one or more of any Mental Health Act form that classifies a person as involuntary (Form 4, 6, 20 or 21). Involuntary status can occur at any point within the hospital stay. The duration of the involuntary status is not known since data is not collected for Form expiration and/or renewal.
- 7 Mental health patients who were not admitted involuntarily under the Mental Health Act are termed "Voluntary & Other" Admissions. Information is not collected on Mental Health Act forms 1, 2, and 3 that record requests and consent for treatment or admission by patients or their parent/guardian. Therefore, it is not possible to say that patients were admitted voluntarily under the MHA, admitted for medical reasons, or involuntary under other acts.

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Notes

- 8 Due to changes in data collection methodology and variables in 2018/2019, data on involuntary admissions for 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 is incomplete and cannot be included in this report. Beginning in 2020/2021, new methodology is used after vigorous standardization and vetting. Values obtained using the new methodology should not be compared with values from the previous methodology.
- 9 This report provides the number of hospitalizations, therefore a patient may be counted more than once within a single year due to repeat hospitalizations throughout the year and/or as transfers between facility in a continuum of care occur.
- 10 BC residents treated out of province are excluded. Non-BC residents are included. It is important to note that the *BC Mental Health Act* (MHA) only applies to events and care within BC. Other provinces have their own acts and out of province treatments are subject to the treating province's legislations.
- 11 Riverview Hospital cases with length of stay greater than 180 days are excluded. Note that Riverview Hospital closed in 2012.

Riverview Hospital did not report project #325-Mental Health Involuntary Admissions before 2008/09. Contact with Riverview reveals that almost all the admissions are involuntary. Therefore any admission to this hospital will be regarded as involuntary.
- 12 Not all Tertiary Mental Health (designated Schedule A under the MHA) nor the federally operated Pacific Treatment Centre (Schedule B) report information to DAD. This is a known data gap, for which work is in progress to build data collection infrastructure and ensure data is available in formats that allow for abstraction to DAD. Currently Willow's Pavillion, South Hills Centre, Hillside Centre, Jack Ledger House, and Heartwood are the reporting Schedule A facilities reporting to DAD. ICU cases are the only cases reported currently to DAD.
- 13 Restraint information was introduced to DAD in 2018/19. However, consistent reporting of restraint information didn't occur until 2020/21 when methodology for mental health variables for legal status were standardized and became mandatory within B.C. Restraint information is only recorded for the first 3 days of the patient's hospitalization.

Restraint type and frequency for Involuntary patients admitted under the B.C. Mental Health Act

2018/19-2022/23* (* Year to Date)

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Notes

Types include:

- M = Mechanical restraint — A device used to restrict free movement that is attached to, adjacent to or worn by the client/patient to prevent an immediate risk of serious bodily harm to self or others. Includes: Handcuffs once “order to admit” is given and patient is handed off to hospital personnel or “order to admit” is given and RCMP/Police remain with the patient while waiting for an inpatient bed. Excludes: Device that triggers an alarm (e.g. bed, chair Wanderguard® bracelet), side rails/bed rails. Handcuffs where the patient is restrained by RCMP/Police prior to the “order to admit” (patient in police custody).

- C = Chair — Any device applied to a chair restricting a person’s voluntary movement such as: a fixed lap table or lap belt that cannot be opened by the person; this would include some reclining chairs from which a person cannot exit freely. Excludes: Do not record when the patient does not have the physical ability or cognitive capacity to rise from any chair.

- P = Physical or manual restraint by staff — A manual procedure used to physically limit a person’s freedom of movement, physical activity, or normal access to his or her body that prevents the immediate risk of serious bodily harm to self or others. Excludes: Does not apply to holding a person in order to apply a mechanical restraint.

- S = Seclusion room — The involuntary confinement of a person alone in a room from which the person is physically prevented from leaving (room is usually locked). Can be referred to as a Secure room. Includes: Security guard posted outside of a locked room. *Exclude* s: Locked nursing unit. Also excludes Time out room, Quiet room, Low stimulation room, Snoezelen

Frequency include:

- C = Constant: use of restraint for any continuous period exceeding 24 hours

- D = Day or Night only: use of restraint during the day or night for a continuous period of 12 hours and less than 24 hours

- I = Intermittent — used occasionally for any period of time that is less than 12 hours

- U = Frequency of use unknown/not documented

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PAS 5627

Restraint type and frequency for Involuntary patients admitted under the B.C. Mental Health Act

2018/19-2022/23* (* Year to Date)

* Note: restraint information is incomplete for 2018/19 - 2019/20 as these variables were optional for reporting and not standardized. Involuntary legal status is not available for these years and data for these years may include voluntary patients or patients involuntary under other health care acts.

PAS 5627

Number of Hospitalization for restrained patients by diagnosis category, restraint type, restraint frequency, and fiscal year for province of B.C.

Diagnosis Category and Type of Restraint	2018/2019* unknown legal status							2019/2020* unknown legal status							2020/2021 involuntary patients only							2021/2022 involuntary patients only							2022/2023* involuntary patients only						
	Continuous beyond 24 hrs	Continuous for 12-24 hrs	Occasional for any period < 12 hrs	Insufficient information to report	Multiple durations	No restraint used on patient	Total	Continuous beyond 24 hrs	Continuous for 12-24 hrs	Occasional for any period < 12 hrs	Insufficient information to report	Multiple durations	No restraint used on patient	Total	Continuous beyond 24 hrs	Continuous for 12-24 hrs	Occasional for any period < 12 hrs	Insufficient information to report	Multiple durations	No restraint used on patient	Total	Continuous beyond 24 hrs	Continuous for 12-24 hrs	Occasional for any period < 12 hrs	Insufficient information to report	Multiple durations	No restraint used on patient	Total	Continuous beyond 24 hrs	Continuous for 12-24 hrs	Occasional for any period < 12 hrs	Insufficient information to report	Multiple durations	No restraint used on patient	Total
Mental disorder as main diagnosis	2024	914	1864	436	435	34315	39988	2199	1300	2191	461	418	34555	41124	2357	1359	2468	286	551	18418	25421	2162	1272	2378	269	512	19043	25636	1844	1071	1916	235	457	16280	21803
Seclusion room	1739	738	1164	281	27		3954	1901	1124	1430	298	25		4778	2068	1161	1667	152	25		5073	1911	1091	1546	149	31		4728	1633	912	1199	135	13		3892
Physical or manual by staff	35 **		32	19 *			96	13	6	52	14			85	**		67 **				90 **	*		39 **	*			73 **	**		45	8		67	
Chair	7 *		12	13 *			38			6 *	*			14 *	*		6 *				14 *	*		6 *				8 *	*	*		*		9	
Mechanical	188	129	476	100 **			899	236	136	536 **	*			1038	208	160	526	97 *			995	181	146	594 **	*			1021	157	123	512	83 *		877	
Multiple types	55	30	175	23	401		684	47	34	167	17	389		654	67	28	202	10	522		829	49	30	193	13	478		763	45	27	155	9	442	678	
No restraint used on patient						34315	34315						34555	34555						18418	18418						19043	19043					16280	16280	
Mental disorder as comorbidity	79	22	79	15	13	38695	38903	107	37	116	24	8	40541	40833	181	75	172	31	16	1775	2250	157	52	169	32	15	1918	2343	137	42	156	43	15	1587	1900
Seclusion room	57	8	21 *	*			92	71	20	49 **	*			151	67	22	55	7	2		153	59	8	44	9			120	64 **		56 *			141	
Physical or manual by staff	*	*	*				7	*	*	*				6	5	1	8	1			15 *	*	**	*				15 *	*	*	*			9	
Chair	*	**					7	*	*	*				8	2	1	1			4 *	*	*	*				9 *	*	*	*				5	
Mechanical	20	11		43 **	*		85	31	16	53 **	*			113	105	49	99	23	1		277	88	39	103	19			249	67	30	84	32 *		214	
Multiple types	*	*			10		17	*	*	**	**			14	2	2	9		13		26 *	*		11 *		15		32 *	*	*	7	**		24	
No restraint used on patient						38695	38695						40541	40541						1775	1775						1918	1918					1587	1587	
Unspecified mental disorder															51	26	60	5	6	616	764	41	18	69	6	10	611	755	55	19	60	11	6	574	725
Seclusion room															38	17	30				85	34 **		33 *				80	49	16	37 *	*		107	
Physical or manual by staff															*	*	*				*	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	*			3	
Chair															1		*				1		*	*			*	*	*	*	*			2	
Mechanical															13	7	24 *				46 **		6	30 *	*			47 *	*		17 *	*		28	
Multiple types															*	*	*				13		*	**			14		6 *	*			11	28	
No restraint used on patient													616	616						616	616						611	611					574	574	
Grand Total	2103	936	1944	451	448	73009	78891	2306	1337	2307	485	426	75096	81957	2589	1460	2700	304	573	20809	28435	2360	1342	2616	307	537	21572	28734	2036	1132	2132	289	478	18441	24508

† 2022/23 year data is considered incomplete until the Ministry receives all submissions late July 2023. Data may be subject to change due to addition of cases or correction of existing cases. Caution should be used when using this data.

* suppression of values 5 or less occurred to reduce the risk of re-identification of individuals; secondary suppression (**) was needed for some cells to prevent calculation of suppressed cells from totals