



Since the start of the pandemic, we've made it a priority to deliver COVID-19 data and information for use by governments, health systems and media. Over the past few months, our teams at CIHI have been working hard to analyze the impacts of the first wave of COVID-19 on our health care systems. I'm very happy to share with you that this work is now available on our website.

[Impact of COVID-19 on Canada's health care systems](#)

On November 19, we released our data and insights exploring how Canada responded to the first wave of COVID-19 and how pandemic planning affected health care systems from March to June 2020. This analysis looks at the impact on Canadians' access to emergency departments and physicians, hospital care (including surgery cancellations, intensive care unit stays and ventilator use) and home care.

In some cases, the numbers paint a picture of a dramatic health care transformation. They also tell a story of unintended consequences, as surgeries were cancelled, health appointments moved online and people reacted to changes in how health care was delivered in their communities.

We hope you find it as interesting as we do.

Web conference: November 26, 2020, at 1 p.m. ET

To keep the conversation going, and to dive into some of the themes we identified in our analysis, we are hosting a web conference with a diverse panel of speakers who will discuss the findings of our analyses and demonstrate how data can support the management of health systems and decision-making in times of crisis.

Our panel:

- **Dr. Sacha Bhatia** (moderator)
Chief Medical Innovation Officer and F.M. Hill Chair in Health System Solutions,
Women's College Hospital

- **Cassie Chisholm**
Acting Director, Primary Health Care, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
- **Tracy Johnson**
Director, Health System Analysis and Emerging Issues, CIHI
- **Yasir Khalid**
Unity Health Patient/Family Advisor
- **Dr. Howard Ovens**
Chief Medical Strategy Officer, Sinai Health System, and Staff Emergency Physician, Mount Sinai Hospital

I hope you can join us. [Register for the web conference.](#)

Other COVID-19 work

At CIHI, we have been working hard to support our stakeholders since the early days of the pandemic. Earlier this year, we launched our [COVID-19 Intervention Timeline](#). This interactive tool displays a high-level timeline of federal, provincial and territorial government interventions — things like school closures and changes to travel restrictions — to reduce the spread of and improve health outcomes related to COVID-19.

I also invite you to visit our [COVID-19 resources web page](#), a home for our key reports and resources related to the pandemic.

Finally, I want to tell you how much we appreciate the work you're doing. It isn't an easy time to work in health care — but you're making a difference. From all of us at CIHI, thank you.

**Better data.
Better decisions.
Healthier Canadians.**

